WEEK OF January 1, 2012

ECCC names Brewer assistant coach

from school reports

Justin Brewer is the new assistant baseball coach at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Neal Holliman, head coach.

"We are extremely excited to have Justin join our staff at East Central," said Holliman. "I have had the opportunity to associate with Coach Brewer over the past 10 years and have always been impressed with his ability to recruit and communicate with athletes."

Holliman said Brewer will also "bring a sense of newness to our program, which initiates new ideas, energy, and commitment." He added, "Change always brings adjustment and we will work diligently to establish the consistency necessary for success."

Brewer succeeds Michael Avalon who was named head baseball coach at Mississippi Delta Community College in Moorhead.

Justin Brewer

Prior to joining the ECCC Diamond Warrior program, Brewer served the past two years as assistant baseball coach at Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Wesson. His duties included working with pitchers and catchers on a daily basis, serving as first base coach, and recruiting coordinator and field maintenance.

Brewer served as head baseball coach at Starkville Academy in 2008-09 and oversaw a pitching staff that compiled a 3.27 earned run average in more than 200 innings worked. Several players received AAA All-North MPSA First- and Second-Team honors following the 2009 campaign. He earlier served as assistant baseball coach in 2006-08.

The new Diamond Warrior assistant is also a former head coach of the Mississippi Prospects summer league squad located in Mathiston. Under his leadership, the Prospects organization finished the season ranked number one in Mississippi and 29th in the nation among summer baseball programs by Perfect Game.

Brewer began his coaching career as a volunteer assistant high school baseball coach at Lamar School in Meridian in 2004-05.

Brewer was a standout baseball player at Clarkdale High School and Meridian Community College.

A left-handed pitcher, Brewer was an All-State and All-District selection his senior year at Clarkdale.

He also helped lead MCC to two consecutive appearances in the NJCAA World Series.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF January 8, 2012

Edmonson joins EC staff

from school reports

Former Diamond Warrior Jack Edmonson of Louisville has returned to his alma mater as an assistant baseball coach, announced Neal Holliman, East Central Community College head baseball coach.

Holliman said Edmonson will be responsible for coaching infield players and hitters and will also oversee the team's strength and conditioning program.

Prior to joining the ECCC baseball staff, Edmonson attended Mississippi Valley State University in Itta Bena, where he was a starting first baseman for the Delta Devils in 2009-10 and served as a student assistant baseball coach in 2010-11.

Jack Edmonson

He received a bachelor's degree in health, physical education, and recreation in May 2011.

Edmonson also served as an assistant baseball coach at Mississippi Delta Community College in Moorhead from January to May 2011, prior to joining the ECCC baseball staff.

His coaching experience also includes serving as head coach of the Mississippi Prospects Team during the summers of 2010 and 2011. He served as head coach of the Cotton States Performance Sports Team in Jackson during the summer of 2009.

Edmonson was a standout infielder on the ECCC baseball team, earning The Warrior Award in 2008-09 and most improved player in 2007-08.

He received an Associate of Arts in Physical Education from ECCC in 2009.

Edmondson is a product of Nanih Waiya High School.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF January 8, 2012

Winston County Journal

MSU Assistant Coach to address ECCC

Mississippi State University assistant baseball coach Lane Burroughs will serve as guest speaker when East Central Community College holds its annual First Pitch Dinner on Saturday, Feb. 4. Activities begin at 6:30 p.m. in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus.

Neal Holliman, who is in his sixth year leading the ECCC baseball program, said he is "very appreciative" to Coach Burroughs for taking the time to help East Central kick off the 2012 baseball campaign.

Holliman added, "We are very excited and honored to have Lane Burroughs as our guest speaker. I have gotten to know Coach Burroughs over the last 10 years and can honestly say I have a tremendous amount of respect and admiration for him as a person and coach."

Burroughs, a former Meridian Community College and Mississippi College baseball standout, is in his fourth year on John Cohen's Bulldog staff.

The Meridian, Miss., native joined the MSU staff in June 2008 after having served as an assistant coach in the Big 12 Conference for the Kansas State Wildcats in 2008.

He helped lead the 2011 Diamond Dawgs to the Regional Championship and the Super Regional finals en route to a 38-25 record.

Burroughs is in his 17th season as a baseball coach and is well-schooled in Magnolia State baseball. In addition to playing the sport on the high school and college levels in the state, Burroughs spent all but three of his first 14 years in the coaching profession in Mississippi, including a highly successful nine-year stint as an assistant coach at Southern Miss.

At USM, Burroughs served as recruiting coordinator, infield coach and handled in-game duties as third base coach. He was also successful in his role as hitting coach and in the development of Southern Miss' sluggers. He coached seven All-Americans and nine freshman All-Americans. In addition, 10 of his position players signed professional baseball contracts, five of whom were top 10 selections in the Major League baseball draft.

During his nine-year tenure at USM, Burroughs helped lead the Golden Eagles to six straight NCAA post-season regional tournament appearances and the program's first Conference USA title.

Burroughs launched his coaching career as a graduate assistant coach at his alma mater Mississippi College, serving one year before joining Bill Baldner's staff at East Mississippi Community College in Scooba in 1997.

He began his coaching association with John Cohen a year later as an assistant coach at Northwestern (La.) State, and helped direct the Demons to a 40-20 mark and the 1998 Southland Conference Championship.

Following the 2007 season at USM, Burroughs moved from Conference USA to the Big 12 Conference and accepted an assistant coaching position on Brad Hill's staff at Kansas State University. That season the Wildcats advanced to the championship game of the Big 12 Conference Tournament.

Burroughs played high school baseball at West Lauderdale in Collinsville, where he was coached by Jerry Boatner, one of the all-

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

(continued from previous page)

January 8, 2012

First Pitch Dinner

time winningest coaches in Mississippi high school baseball history.

He continued his career at MCC under Coach Corky Palmer and helped lead the Eagles to NJCAA Region 23 titles in 1992 and 1993. His success continued at MC under Coach Tom Gladney, where he played two seasons and was honored as an All-Gulf South Conference outfielder and the team MVP in 1995, his final campaign with the Choctaws.

Burroughs is married to the former Susan Parker of Meridian. They have two daughters, Parker Grace, 10 and Camryn Lane, eight; and a son, Thomas Jackson, four.

Tickets to the ECCC First-Pitch Dinner are $25 for adults and $12 for children 12 and under. Souvenir Diamond Warrior items

Burroughs

will also be available for purchase.

East Central begins the 2012 season by hosting Bossier Parish on Saturday, Feb. 11. Double header action gets under way at 1 p.m. at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex.

Serving as Holliman's assistants are first-year staff members Justin Brewer and Jack Edmonson.

For more information, Coach Neal Holliman, 601-635-6374 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 374. His e-mail address is nholliman@eccc.edu.

Burroughs to speak at EC First Pitch Dinner

January 15, 2012

from school reports

Mississippi State University assistant baseball coach Lane Burroughs will serve as guest speaker when East Central Community College holds its annual First Pitch Dinner on Saturday, Feb. 4. Activities begin at 6:30 p.m. in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus.

Neal Holliman, who is in his sixth year leading the ECCC baseball program, said he is "very appreciative" to Burroughs for taking the time to help East Central kick off the 2012 baseball campaign.

Lane Burroughs

Holliman added, "We are very excited and honored to have Lane Burroughs as our guest speaker. I have gotten to know Coach Burroughs over the last 10 years and can honestly say I have a tremendous amount of respect and admiration for him as a person and coach."

Burroughs, a former Meridian Community College and Mississippi College baseball standout, is in his fourth year on John Cohen's Bulldog staff.

The Meridian native joined the MSU staff in June 2008 after having served as an assistant coach in the Big 12 Conference for Kansas State in 2008.

He helped lead the 2011 Diamond Dawgs to the Regional Championship and the Super Regional finals en route to a 38-25 record.

Burroughs is in his 17th season as a baseball coach and is well-schooled in Magnolia State baseball. In addition to playing the sport on the high school and college levels in the state, Burroughs spent all but three of his first 14 years in the coaching profession in Mississippi, including a highly successful nine-year stint as an assistant coach at Southern Miss.

Burroughs helped lead the Golden Eagles to six straight NCAA post-season regional tournament appearances and the program's first Conference USA title.

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He began his coaching association with John Cohen a year later as an assistant coach at Northwestern (La.) State, and helped direct the Demons to a 40-20 mark and the 1998 Southland Conference Championship.

Following the 2007 season at USM, Burroughs moved from Conference USA to the Big 12 Conference and accepted an assistant coaching position on Brad Hill's staff at Kansas State. That season the Wildcats advanced to the championship game of the Big 12 Tournament.

Burroughs played high school baseball at West Lauderdale in Collinsville, where he was coached by Jerry Boatner, one of the all-time winningest coaches in Mississippi high school baseball history.

He continued his career at MCC under Corky Palmer and helped lead the Eagles to NJCAA Region 23 titles in 1992 and 1993. His success continued at MC under Tom Gladney, where he played two seasons and was honored as an All-Gulf South Conference outfielder and the team MVP in 1995, his final campaign with the Choctaws.

Tickets to the ECCC First-Pitch Dinner are $25 for adults and $12 for children 12 and under. Souvenir Diamond Warrior items will also be available for purchase.

APPEARED IN:

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF January 15, 2012

JOINING THE WARRIORS

ECCC photo

These high school baseball standouts are shown signing national letters-of-intent to continue their athletic careers in 2012-13 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Seated from left are right-handed pitcher Ty Hendrix, a product of East Webster High School in Maben; right-handed pitcher Mason Woodrow, Taylorsville; middle infielder Maxwell Harmon, Enterprise; right-handed pitcher Dustin McCrory, Morton; left-handed pitcher Franklin Hayes, Magee; right-handed pitcher Drew Freeman, Clarkdale; and catcher Cody Sartin, Magee. Standing from left are ECCC coaches Jack Edmonson (assistant), Neal Holliman (head coach) and Justin Brewer (assistant). The signing ceremony was held Tuesday in the recently renovated Molly McGee Gold Room in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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MERIDIAN STAR ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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(continued from previous page)

January 15, 2012

At USM, Burroughs served as recruiting coordinator, infield coach and handled in-game duties as third base coach. He was also successful in his role as hitting coach and in the development of USM's sluggers. He coached seven All-Americans and nine freshman All-Americans. In addition, 10 of his position players signed professional baseball contracts, five of whom were top 10 selections in the Major League baseball draft.

During his nine-year tenure at USM,

East Central begins the 2012 season by hosting Bossier Parish on Saturday, Feb. 11. Doubleheader action gets under way at 1 p.m. at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex.

Serving as Holliman's assistants are first-year staff members Justin Brewer and Jack Edmonson.

For more information, Coach Neal Holliman, 601-635-6374 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 374. His e-mail address is nholliman@eccc.edu.

WEEK OF January 22, 2012

Spirit of Morton

McCrory Continuing Baseball Career at ECCC

Baseball standout Dustin McCrory (seated center) of Morton High School is shown signing a national letter of intent to continue his athletic career at East Central Community College in Decatur. McCrory, a right-handed pitcher, is a first team All-District selection and recorded 31 strikeouts in 21 innings pitched his junior season. Also seated are (from left) Dustin's grandmother, Debby McCrory; his father, Lee McCrory; his mom, Alisha Prince; and his grandmother, Vivian Douglas. Standing (from left) are assistant ECCC baseball coaches Justin Brewer and Jack Edmonson, and head coach Neal Holliman; Dustin's step-father, Scooter Prince; and Dustin's siblings Zack Prince and Jade Prince. The signing ceremony was held Tuesday, Jan. 18 in the recently renovated Molly McGee Gold Room in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF February 5, 2012

ECCC Baseball

From press reports

Injuries in the offseason have provided some obstacles for East Central Community College's baseball squad as it prepares for the 2012 campaign.

"But successful teams overcome obstacles," said Diamond Warrior head coach Neal Holliman, who seeks another winning campaign and hopefully another opportunity for a state title, a feat his first EC squad achieved in 2007 and narrowly missed in 2010 by finishing state runner-up.

Holliman, now in his sixth year at the helm, led the 2011 squad to a 28-20 overall mark. The Diamond Warriors, who were ranked as high as 15th in the NJCAA poll, finished third in the MACJC South Division with a 13-11 record and qualified for post-season play. EC fell to Northwest Mississippi Community College in a best of three series, with the winner advancing to the MACJC State Championship.

staff "has continued to develop in a positive direction since the fall."

This year's squad will be young and features only six sophomores - outfielder Fred Hampton of Nanih Waiya; catcher Carlos Leal and outfielder Ricky Velez, both of Puerto Rico; and pitchers Brock Ward and Evan Humphries, both of Louisville, and Casey Wells of West Jones.

Hampton (5-10, 200) batted .293 with two home runs and nine RBIs. Leal (6', 190) posted a .277 average and had three homers and 15 RBIs. Hampton and Leal are serving as team captains.

Velez (6', 205) was redshirted last season due to a wrist injury but was a starter on the 2010 team that was ranked 10th in the country and finished 39-20.

Ward (6-2, 190) is mostly used as a relief pitcher. He posted a 1.80 earned run average last season.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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(continued from previous page)

February 5, 2012

Winston County Journal www.winstoncountyjournal.com

Team has potential for success

ECCC Diamond Warriors

Members of the 2012 East Central Community College Baseball Team and their respective high schools include (front row, from left) Caleb McKee, Neshoba Central; Kyle Henson, Starkville Academy; Dustin Floyd and Robert Greer, both of Neshoba Central; Fred Hampton, Nanih Waiya; Xzavier Franklin, Newton County; David McAdory, Louisville; Rubert Alcantare, St. George, Dominican Republic; and Nick Hodges, Vancleave; (second row, from left) assistant coach Jack Edmonson; Jared Seymour, St. Martin; Carlos Leal, Colegio San Ignacio, Puerto Rico; Blake Cunningham, Louisville; Terrance Steele, Neshoba Central; Tim Anderson, Hillcrest, Tuscaloosa, Ala.; Severino Signa, Deer Creek; Jordan Mixon, East Webster; Marc Cruso, Harrison Central; Ricardo Velez, Colegio La Merced, Puerto Rico; head coach Neal Holliman and assistant coach Justin Brewer; and (back row, from left) manager Nicholas Newell, Jackson; Brock Ward, Louisville; Fernando Gonzalez, Colegio San Ignacio, Puerto Rico; Kalik May, Tuscaloosa County, Alabama; Casey Wells, West Jones; Blake Dubuisson, Long Beach; Evan Humphries, Louisville; Coy Sorenson, Kosciusko; Shawn Wiseman, Richton; Ryan Shotts, Louisville; and managers Jake Frasier, Carthage; and Deterron Hardin, Louisville. (EC Photo)

baseman Xavier Franklin (5-10, 190) of Newton County; and outfielder Terrance Steele (6-0, 175) of Neshoba Central. Holliman said Steele "has shown significant improvement during early spring practice."

(Continued from previous page)

February 5, 2012

"We have been suffering from some injuries early...but every team has obstacles to overcome...and so this is just an obstacle we will fight to overcome," said Holliman. "We won't be full strength opening day (Saturday, Feb. 11) but to be what we are capable of being and achieve our maximum potential, we must be a team that is resilient and one that continues to improve throughout the course of the year and continues to get healthier as the season progresses."

When asked what he liked most about this year's Diamond Warriors, Holliman had one word to describe the squad: "character."

"I feel this squad has the highest character of any team I have been associated with," Holliman said. "We have some tremendous young men from some tremendous families, and we are reaping the benefits of having the privilege to be around them on a daily basis. Our team grade point average from the fall – which was a 3.34 – is an indication of the type student-athlete we have on the squad."

Holliman said team strengths will be the offense - when the squad is healthy and the lineup is complete – and overall speed. He said the Diamond Warriors have the potential to be a "very solid" defensive club... "but we are not at that point as of yet...we still have some work to do." He noted the pitching

Humphries (6-3, 200), who is also serving as a team captain, saw limited action in 2011 due to a sophomore-dominated pitching staff. "He was also still recovering from arm surgery out of high school, but has progressed nicely and will provide quality innings this season," said Holliman.

Wells (6-2, 172) also made brief appearances on the mound in 2011 but will play a major role as a sophomore.

Holliman mentioned several freshmen who showed promise during fall workouts, including middle infielder/outfielder Tim Anderson (6-1, 171) of Hillcrest (Ala.) High School in Tuscaloosa; infielder Kalik May (6-2, 195) of Tuscaloosa County HS; catcher/outfielder David McAdory (5-10, 190) of Louisville: right-handed pitchers Fernado Gonzalez (6-2, 165) of Puerto Rico and Bake Dubuisson (6-4, 180) of Long Beach; outfielder/second

The ongoing theme for the ECCC baseball program is "Everything Counts," which represents "the importance of having a complete program on and off the field" said Holliman.

"We also stress the importance of day-to-day responsibilities that go hand-in-hand with achieving our 'maximum potential' as a team," he added. "We cannot predict injuries, performances and unexpected events, but one thing we can make sure of is our attitude and work ethic, and both of these have a direct influence on us achieving our 'maximum potential' for each season."

Holliman said the team "slogan" for the 2012 campaign is "Never Let Good Enough Be Good Enough," which was submitted by freshman catcher David McAdory of Louisville and selected following a team vote of all entries for the annual contest among players.

WEEK OF February 5, 2012

Diamond Warriors make '12 debut

East Central Community College's baseball team begins 2012 season action Saturday, Feb. 11, on the Decatur campus.

The Diamond Warriors will host Bossier Parish (La.) Community College in doubleheader action starting at 1 p.m. at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex. The first contest is a nine-inning matchup and will be followed by a seven-inning battle.

Neal Holliman begins his sixth year as Diamond Warrior head coach. Staff members include first-year assistants Justin Brewer and Jack Edmonson.

East Central travels to Alabama Southern Community College Wednesday, Feb. 15. Doubleheader action gets under way at noon on the Monroeville, Ala., campus.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF February 12, 2012

ECCC Diamond Warriors sweep Bossier Parish, La.

Baseball season began in grand style for East Central Community College's Diamond Warriors, who notched a pair of wins from Bossier Parish (La.) Community College on a cold and windy Saturday at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex on the Decatur campus.

East Central's bats jumped on Cavalier pitching early in the opener, scoring three runs in the first, four in the second and two in the third before putting the game away with seven runs in the fourth and three in the fifth in cruising to a 19-0 victory.

EC pounded 18 hits in registering the seven-inning shutout, while the visitors managed just six hits.

Right-hander Fernando Gonzales was the winning pitcher, as the freshman hurler fanned five batters and walked one through five innings. He allowed five hits. Right-hander Shawn Wiseman of Richton pitched the sixth and seventh innings and allowed one hit.

The nightcap was more of a challenge for EC, which scored the game-winning run in the bottom of the eighth for a 7-6 victory in extra innings.

Evan Humphries, a right-hander from Louisville, hurled the final 11/3 innings to pick up the win in relief. He allowed no hits and fanned three batters. Starter Blake Dubuisson of Long Beach pitched 3 2/3 innings and allowed two runs on four hits. The right-hander also fanned a batter.

East Central hosts the annual Rush Invitational Feb. 17-19 at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex in Decatur.

APPEARED IN:

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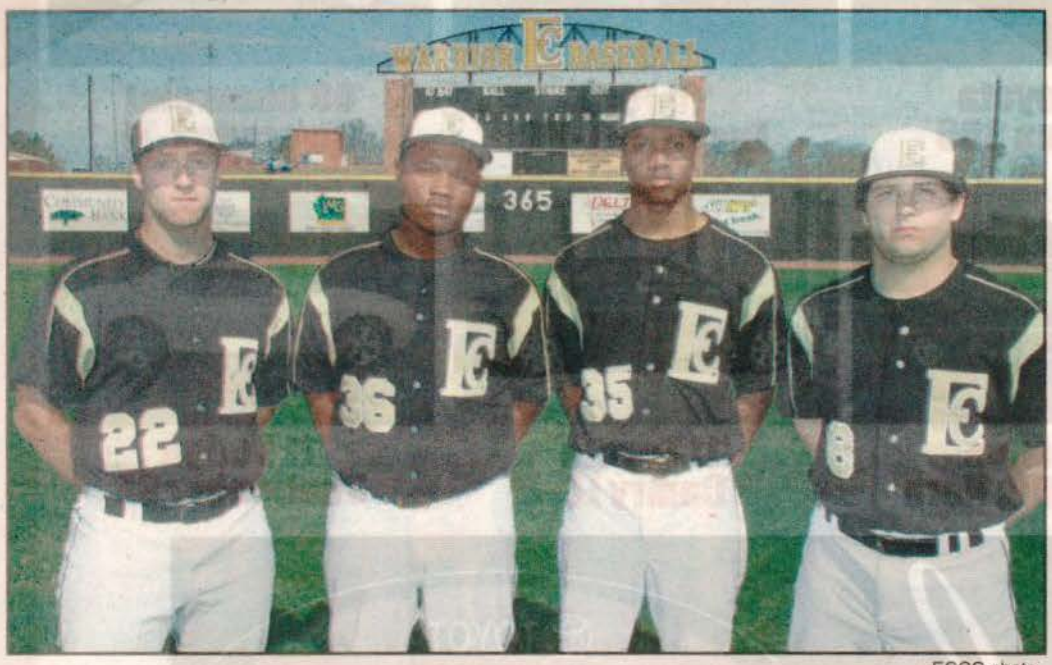
WEEK OF February 12, 2012



ECCC photo

Neshoba baseball players at ECCC

These student-athletes from Neshoba County are members of the 2012 East Central Community College baseball squad. From left are left-handed pitcher/first baseman Caleb McKee (22), right-handed pitcher Robert Greer (36), outfielder Terrance Steele (35) and catcher Dustin Floyd (8), all products of Neshoba Central High School. The Diamond Warrior program is led by head coach Neal Holliman and assistants Justin Brewer and Jack Edmonson.

APPEARED IN:

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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February 26, 2012

ECCC PHOTO

FORMER DIAMOND WARRIORS HONORED

Former East Central Community College baseball standouts who served as team captains on state championship squads received special recognition from head coach Neal Holliman (center) at the annual First-Pitch Dinner held Saturday, Feb. 4, 2012, on the Decatur campus. From left are Philadelphia native Brian Hardy of Madison and Ron Perkins of Louisville, who helped lead the Diamond Warriors to the program's first state title in 1998, and Jordan Robinson of Union and Pulaski native Chris Parkman of Huntsville, Ala., who were key members of the 2007 state championship squad. Holliman was an assistant to the late Jamie Clark on the 1998 team and led the 2007 squad to the state title in his first year as Diamond Warrior head coach.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ____

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SPIRIT OF MORTON ____ TY TIMES ✓

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WEEK OF February 26, 2012

MCC baseball to visit ECCC on Tuesday

from school reports

The Meridian Community College Eagles have announced that their scheduled doubleheader with East Central Community College has been changed to this afternoon at 2 p.m.

The twinbill with the Warriors was originally scheduled for Wednesday afternoon, but the threat of heavy rain has caused the games to be moved up a day.

MCC will look to extend its current five-game winning streak when it makes the short drive to Decatur today. The Eagles defeated Alabama Southern on Friday afternoon by a final score of 3-2 to extend its winning streak to five games.

Former West Lauderdale standout Wes Stokes led the Eagles to the win by tossing seven innings and collecting three strikeouts.

Kasey Hinton, a Clarkdale product, currently leads MCC in hitting with a .400 batting average and is ranked fifth in the country in stolen bases with 12.

Wade Wass has had a solid start to the 2012 season with six home runs and currently leads the NJCAA in the same category.

East Central (4-6) will enter play against Meridian looking to rebound from its early season woes. The Warriors have lost five of their past six games coming into the doubleheader with the Eagles.

ECCC played East Mississippi over the weekend and split a doubleheader with the Lions (3-1, 1-6).

MCC is still scheduled to open a three-game series with Northwest Florida this weekend at Scaggs Field.

The opening game of the series will be Friday night at 5 p.m. and the final two games of the weekend will be Saturday afternoon beginning at noon.

Prep Baseball

Winona Christian 15
Meridian Home School 0

The Flyers trip to Winona was not a happy one as three Winona pitchers combined to throw a no-hitter against them at Winona.

The Stars blew open the game in the first inning as they scored nine runs in the first inning against Meridian pitcher Tucker Perry.

They weren't done either. Winona scored three runs in the third inning and three more runs in the fourth inning.

Perry took the loss and drops his record to 1-1 on the young year. Perry was hit hard for seven earned runs in just three innings of work. The Flyers (2-1) will travel to Columbus today and take on Imanuel Christian.

Russell Christian 7
Macon Central 4

Russell remained undefeated on the young season as they traeled to Macon and played Macon Central Academy in baseball action Monday.

Baylie Etheridge had two hits in three plate appearances as Russell won by three. Camryn Lee also gathered two hits for Russell.

Russell scored a run in the second and third innings to lead 2-0. Russell then erupted for four runs in the top of the fourth and ended the night by scrapping across a run in the top of the sixth.

Jacob Stephens got the win for Russell while Andrew Culpepper got the save.

ECCC Softball Squad wins three at Northeast MS CC

East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball squad won three of five contests in the Northeast Mississippi Community College Invitational held Feb. 24-25 in Booneville.

The Lady Diamond Warriors recorded victories over Lane College and Three Rivers by 9-1 margins in Friday's competition, and picked up a 1-0 victory over Itawamba but lost close decisions to Calhoun (3-2) and host Northeast (5-2) in Saturday action.

In the win over Lane College, EC's offense was led by Kaetlen Brown of Deatsville, Ala., who pounded a double and two singles. Brown is a product of Edgewood Academy.

Also recording multiple hits were Kelsi Watson of Smithville, Brittany Pounders of Southeast Lauderdale, Dakota Vowell of Neshoba Central and Haelie Allen of Leake Academy, all with two singles each.

Mary Sanders of Vidalia, La., was the winning pitcher. The Adams Christian Academy product fanned seven batters and allowed just one run on three hits in the five-inning matchup.

EC's scoring onslaught continued against Three Rivers, as the Lady Diamond Warriors tallied four runs in the fourth inning and four in the fifth in cruising to the easy victory.

Lajoya Griffin of Philadelphia homered and singled, Watson blasted a double and two singles, and Brown collected three singles to lead the offense. Vowell also had a product outing at the plate and recorded two singles. Griffin was also the top run producer with three RBIs. Watson and Vowell were credited with two RBIs each.

Other hitters were Allen and Marlee Massey of Neshoba Central, singles each.

Tenna Patterson of Lexington, Ala., was the winning pitcher in the five-inning battle, allowing the one run on four hits. She also fanned six batters and walked one.

The EC offense was not as productive in the loss to Calhoun, as the squad managed just six hits.

Haylee Roberts led the offense with a double and RBI. Singles each were recorded by Massey, Pounders, Brown, Allen and A.J. Peeler of Neshoba Central. Brown took the loss, allowing three runs on five hits in the six-inning matchup. She fanned four batters and walked three.

In the shutout of Itawamba, Massey led the offense with three singles.

Peeler scored what eventually became the winning run in the second inning. Allen was credited with the RBI.

Patterson allowed just one hit and fanned 10 batters to record the victory. She also walked a batter.

The Lady Diamond Warriors concluded the two-day event with a loss to host Northeast.

Roberts homered and Brown collected two singles to lead the offense.

Other hitters were Massey, Peeler and Griffin, singles each. Sanders took the loss, allowing five earned runs on nine hits.

East Central, now 11-4 under head coach Scott Hill and assistant Kristin Chaney, travels to Holmes Community College in Goodman Monday, Feb. 27 and journeys to Baton Rouge Wednesday, Feb. 29. Game times are 3 and 5 p.m. for each doubleheader.

March 4, 2012

Sophomore right-hander Brock Ward (15) of Louis
ers a pitch for East Central Community College
Diamond Warriors' 19-9 victory over Mississ
Community College Sunday in the first of two m
the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex in Decatur. War
1/3 innings in relief and allowed one earned run c
EC won the second game by an 8-3 margin to co
sweep. (EC Photo)

CCHS Warrior

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY
Sports Editor

The Choctaw Central Warriors scored a big extra- inning victory over Lake last week in prep baseball action.

The Warriors defeated the Hornets 6-5 in a game that went 10 innings. They then traveled Ackerman over the weekend where they lost 5-4 to the host team and then slipped past Weir 8-6.

"Our pitching has been strong," first year coach Joey Ezell said. "They have

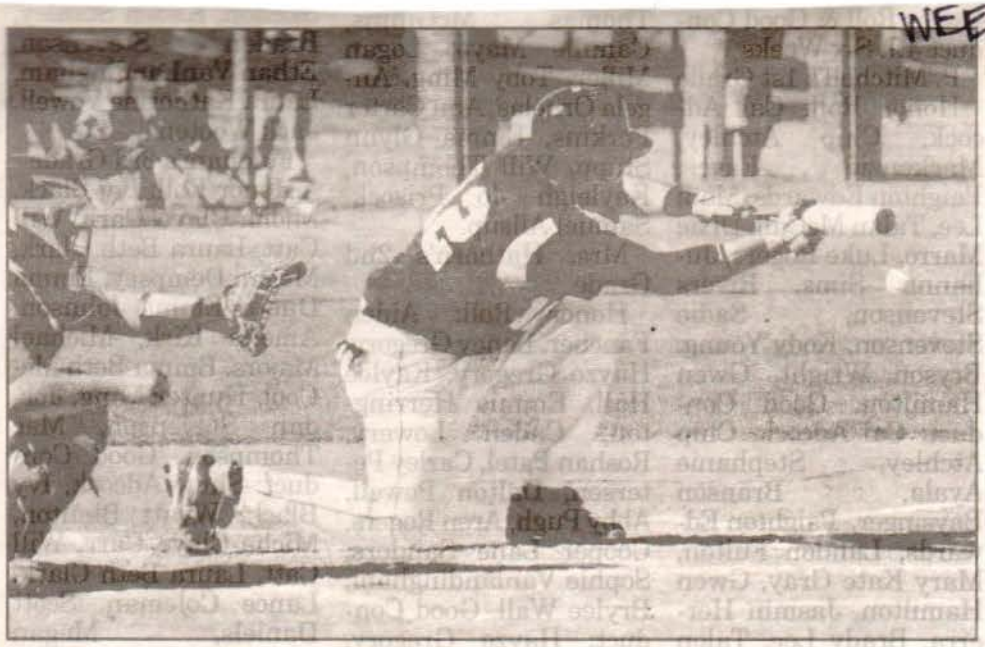
Jamison Gibson drove in
Thompson in the 10th inning to le
Warriors over Lake. Brandon Ke
was the winning pitcher in rel
starter Dylan Wheeler, who went t
six innings. Kennedy had eight
outs in four innings on the n
Warrior hitters were as follows: W
hit three singles; Gibson had thre
Demarcus Wilson and Thompso
hit two singles.

CHOCTAW CENTRAL VS. ACKERMAN

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ____
NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ____
SPIRIT OF MORTON ____
MERIDIAN STAR ____
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ____
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ____
CLARION-LEDGER ____

WEEK OF March 4, 2012



Shotts Lays Down Bunt

Freshman Ryan Shotts (12) of Louisville lays down a bunt for East Central Community College during the Diamond Warriors' 19-9 blowout of Mississippi Delta Community College in the first of two contests Sunday at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex in Decatur. Shotts was also credited with a RBI and scored a run. EC won the second game by an 8-3 margin to complete the sweep. (EC Photo)

Ward Delivers for EC

Sophomore right-hander Brock Ward (15) of Louisville delivers a pitch for East Central Community College during the Diamond Warriors' 19-9 victory over Mississippi Delta Community College Sunday in the first of two matchups at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex in Decatur. Ward pitched 1 1/3 innings in relief and allowed one earned run on two hits. EC won the second game by an 8-3 margin to complete the sweep. (EC Photo)

BA DEMOCRAT _____

COUNTY TIMES _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

ECCC diamond warriors sweep MS Delta

Offenses dominated for both teams in the opener and East Central Community College bats remained hot in the nightcap as the home standing Diamond Warriors registered a pair of victories over Mississippi Delta Community College Sunday afternoon at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex in Decatur. The twin bill was originally scheduled for Saturday but was moved to Sunday due to wet field conditions.

EC cruised 19-9 in the first contest and posted an 8-3 victory in the nightcap to even its record at 7-7 under head coach Neal Holliman and assistants Justin Brewer and Jack Edmonson.

MS Delta, led by former EC assistant Michael Avalon, dropped to 3-10-1. Avalon was honored prior to the opener by Coach Holliman and Athletic Director Chris Harris who presented the first-year Trojan coach with a framed jersey he wore during his five years as a Diamond Warrior assistant.

In the opener, EC spotted Delta a 1-0 lead in the top of the second inning but the Diamond Warrior offense rallied for nine runs in the bottom of the frame to take a commanding 9-3 advantage. The visitors later trimmed the deficit to 12-9 in the fifth but EC responded with six runs in the bottom of the inning and added another run in the sixth for the easy victory, which was called after six innings due to the 10-run rule in the scheduled nine-inning contest.

Kalik May of Tuscaloosa County (Ala.) and Newton County High School product Xavier Franklin each had two hits and three RBIs to lead the offense. May, who doubled and singled, also scored three runs. Franklin was credited with two singles and also scored a run.

Also with multiple hits were Tim Anderson of Hillcrest (Ala.) and Ricardo Velez of Puerto Rico, two singles each. Both also scored three runs and Velez was credited with two RBIs. Anderson added an RBI.

Other Diamond Warrior hitters were Carlos Leal of Puerto Rico, Rubert Alcantara of the Dominican Republic, Jared Seymour of St. Martin High School and Ryan Shotts and David McAdory, both of Louisville, singles each.

Leal and McAdory were also credited with two RBIs each, and Alcantara, Shotts, Seymour and Fred Hampton of Nanih Waiya each knocked in a run. Alcantra and Seymour also scored two runs each. Also scoring were Leal, Shotts, Hampton, McAdory and Terrance Steele of Neshoba Central.

Starter Shawn Wiseman of Richton picked up the win. Wiseman went 4 1/3 innings and allowed six earned runs on seven hits. He fanned three batters and walked one. Brief appearances on the mound were made by southpaw Coy Sorenson of Kosciusko, and right-handers Brock Ward of Louisville and Marc Cruso of Harrison Central.

In the second contest, EC jumped out to a 2-0 first-inning lead and added a pair of runs in the third, one in the fourth and three in the fifth to capture the seven-inning matchup. Delta scored once in the second and added two runs in the fourth.

Velez homered and doubled to lead the offense. He was also credited with four RBIs and scored twice.

Hampton also had two hits – a pair of singles – and knocked in two runs.

Other hitters were May, Alcantara, McAdory and Franklin, singles each. Each also scored a run. May and Franklin also knocked in a run a piece.

Starter Blake Dubuisson of Long Beach got the win. Dubuisson went 3 2/3 innings and allowed three earned runs on six hits. He fanned two batters and walked one. Right-hander Jordan Mixon of East Webster pitched the final 3 1/3 innings and allowed two hits. He also fanned five batters.

The Diamond Warriors host Northeast Mississippi Community College Tuesday, March 6 in doubleheader action getting under way at 1 p.m. at the Clark/Gay baseball complex. The opener is a nine-inning battle and will be followed by a seven-inning contest.

East Central travels to Itawamba Community College Saturday, March 10 in doubleheader action getting under way at 2 p.m. on the Fulton campus. The opener is a nine-inning contest and will be followed by a seven-inning matchup.

A DEMOCRAT _____
COUNTY TIMES _____
N COUNTY JOURNAL ✓
I-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF March 4, 2012

Posted: 12:33 AM Mar 6, 2012

ECCC Diamond Warriors Sweep MS Delta

Offenses dominated for both teams in the opener and ECCC bats remained hot in the nightcap as the home standing Diamond Warriors registered a pair of victories over Mississippi Delta Community College.

Reporter: East Central Community College

Like Sign Up to see what your friends like

Offenses dominated for both teams in the opener and East Central Community College bats remained hot in the nightcap as the home standing Diamond Warriors registered a pair of victories over Mississippi Delta Community College Sunday afternoon at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex in Decatur. The twin bill was originally scheduled for Saturday but was moved to Sunday due to wet field conditions.

EC cruised 19-9 in the first contest and posted an 8-3 victory in the nightcap to even its record at 7-7 under head coach Neal Holliman and assistants Justin Brewer and Jack Edmonson.

MS Delta, led by former EC assistant Michael Avalon, dropped to 3-10-1. Avalon was honored prior to the opener by Coach Holliman and Athletic Director Chris Harris who presented the first-year Trojan coach with a framed jersey he wore during his five years as a Diamond Warrior assistant.

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Kalik May of Tuscaloosa County (Ala.) and Newton County High School product Xavier Franklin each had two hits and three RBIs to lead the offense. May, who doubled and singled, also scored three runs. Franklin was credited with two singles and also scored a run.

Also with multiple hits were Tim Anderson of Hillcrest (Ala.) and Ricardo Velez of Puerto Rico, two singles each. Both also scored three runs and Velez was credited with two RBIs. Anderson added an RBI.

Other Diamond Warrior hitters were Carlos Leal of Puerto Rico, Rubert Alcantara of the Dominican Republic, Jared Seymour of St. Martin High School and Ryan Shotts and David McAdory, both of Louisville, singles each.

Leal and McAdory were also credited with two RBIs each, and Alcantara, Shotts, Seymour and Fred Hampton of Nanih Waiya each knocked in a run. Alcantra and Seymour also scored two runs each. Also scoring were Leal, Shotts, Hampton, McAdory and Terrance Steele of Neshoba Central.

Starter Shawn Wiseman of Richton picked up the win. Wiseman went 4 1/3 innings and allowed six earned runs on seven hits. He fanned three batters and walked one. Brief appearances on the mound were made by southpaw Coy Sorenson of Kosciusko, and right-handers Brock Ward of Louisville and Marc Cruso of Harrison Central.

In the second contest, EC jumped out to a 2-0 first-inning lead and added a pair of runs in the third, one in the fourth and three in the fifth to capture the seven-inning matchup. Delta scored once in the second and added two runs in the fourth.

Velez homered and doubled to lead the offense. He was also credited with four RBIs and scored twice.

Hampton also had two hits – a pair of singles – and knocked in two runs.

Other hitters were May, Alcantara, McAdory and Franklin, singles each. Each also scored a run. May and Franklin also knocked in a run a piece.

Starter Blake Dubuisson of Long Beach got the win. Dubuisson went 3 2/3 innings and allowed three earned runs on six hits. He fanned two batters and walked one. Right-hander Jordan Mixon of East Webster pitched the final 3 1/3 innings and allowed two hits. He also fanned five batters.

The Diamond Warriors host Northeast Mississippi Community College Tuesday, March 6 in doubleheader action getting under way at 1 p.m. at the Clark/Gay baseball complex. The opener is a nine-inning battle and will be followed by a seven-inning contest.

East Central travels to Itawamba Community College Saturday, March 10 in doubleheader action getting under way at 2 p.m. on the Fulton campus. The opener is a nine-inning contest and will be followed by a seven-inning matchup.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

other ✓

WEEK OF March 15, 2012

Leads EC

Sophomore Fred Hampton (10) had another productive day at the plate for East Central Community College and helped lead the Diamond Warriors to an easy 11-1 victory in the opener with visiting Northeast Mississippi Community College Tuesday, March 6. Hampton led the offense with a double and s[illegible] run producer with three RBIs. Hampton is a product of Nanih Wa[illegible] 10-8 decision in the nightcap to complete a sweep [illegible] held at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL 2X

CLARION-LEDGER _____

EC baseball falls to SW, sweeps NE

WEEK OF March 18, 2012

from school reports

East Central Community College's baseball squad began MACJC South Division action by dropping a doubleheader to Southwest Mississippi Saturday in Summit.

The Diamond Warriors were blanked 5-0 in the opener and fell 7-2 in the nightcap.

EC managed just four hits in the first contest — a pair of singles from Kalik May of Tuscaloosa County (Ala.) High School and singles each from Fred Hampton of Nanih Waiya and David McAdory, a product of Louisville High School.

Right-hander Fernando Gonzalez of Puerto Rico took the loss, allowing five earned runs on five hits through 4 1/3 innings. He fanned two batters and walked two. Evan Humphries, a right-hander from Louisville, hurled 1 2/3 innings in relief. He allowed one hit and fanned a batter.

See ECCC, page 9A

ECCC

Continued from page 8A

In the second game, EC's offense was led by Nick Hodges of Vancleave, who pounded two doubles and scored twice. McAdory and Tim Anderson of Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa contributed a single each. Anderson was also credited with two RBIs.

Starter Blake Dubuisson of Long Beach took the loss. Dubuisson hurled three innings and allowed three earned runs on three hits. He also walked a batter. Right-handers Jordan Mixon of East Webster, Brook Ward of Louisville and Marc Cruso of Harrison Central made brief appearances on the mound.

In other games last week, EC sweep a doubleheader from Northwest Mississippi on Wednesday, winning the opener by a 6-5 margin and posting an 8-5 decision in the nightcap.

May collected two singles and an RBI in leading the EC offense in the first victory.

Other hitters were Hampton, Anderson and Terrence Steele of Neshoba Central, singles each.

Cruso was the winning pitcher and Ward was credited with the save. Cruso hurled three scoreless innings of middle relief and allowed four hits. He also fanned four batters and walked one. Ward pitched the final three innings and allowed two hits.

In the second game, McAdory and Hampton led the offense with two hits each. McAdory doubled and singled and collected two RBIs. He also scored two runs. Hampton also scored a run.

Carlos Leal of Puerto Rico contributed a triple, and singles each were registered by Anderson, May and Ricardo Velez of Puerto Rico.

Humphries picked up the win and Coy Sorenson was credited with the save. Humphries hurled two innings in relief and allowed one earned run on two hits. He also walked two batters. Sorenson, a southpaw from Kosciusko, hurled the final 2 1/3 innings and allowed one hit. He also fanned a batter.

East Central began spring break competition by splitting a doubleheader with Itawamba March 10 in Itawamba.

The Diamond Warriors rallied for a 5-3 victory in the opener and were outscored 11-1 in the nightcap.

Anderson doubled and singled, and May collected two singles to lead the offense in the first contest.

Other sluggers were Hampton, Steele and Jared Seymour of St. Martin High School, doubles each; and McAdory, Velez and Rubert Alcantara of the Dominican Republic, singles each. Velez and Seymour also led in RBIs with two each.

Humphries picked up the win in relief, allowing one earned run on three hits through 3 2/3 innings. He also walked a batter. Gonzalez was credited with the save.

He hurled the final 1 1/3 innings and allowed one hit. He also fanned two batters.

ECCC was to travel to Hinds Tuesday.

The Diamond Warriors host Gulf Coast in a twinbill Saturday, March 24 at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex. The first contest gets under way at 1 p.m.

ECCC's baseball program is led by head coach Neal Holliman and assistants Justin Brewer and Jack Edmonson.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

Basketball season has come to an end for East Central Community College's Lady Warriors, who were eliminated in first-round competition of the MACJC State Tournament being held at Itawamba Community College in Fulton.

from school reports

The EC women, who qualified for the prestigious event as the South's No. 4 seed, were outscored 73-55 by the host Lady Indians, the top-seeded North squad.

EC trailed 38-32 at the halftime break. The Lady Warriors trimmed the deficit to 44-40 in early second half action, but could get no closer as the Lady Indians pulled away for the decisive victory.

Sophomores Ja'Monica Orton and Kurlysha Bell each had 11 points to lead the Lady Warriors, who completed the 2011-12 campaign at 8-15 under head coach Bill Smith.

Bell also had eight rebounds.

Xzandra Dowd had 10 points and was credited with a team-high nine rebounds.

Kelcia Bufkin scored nine points, Jakela Johnson had six, and Inessa Adams and Newton's Ashlee Hardy both had four.

The Lady Warriors made 19-of-47 (40.4 percent) two-point field goals and were just 2-of-10 from three-point range. EC was 15-of-18 at the free-throw line.

Ayanna Lynn poured in 20 points to lead Itawamba, 22-2.

Shay Bonner, Ty-Nita Baker, and LaPrecious Naylon each had 16 points.

The Lady Indians connected on 29-of-75 (38.7 percent) field goals, 9-of-27 (33.3 percent) treys, and 6-of-12 free throws.

East Central Community College's baseball progr is led by sixth year head coach Neal Holliman (ce ter) and first-year assistants Justin Brewer (left) Jack Edmonson. Holliman entered 2012 with a 14 115 record at EC.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL 2X

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

March 25, 2012

EC Diamond Warriors take pair from Hinds, Gulf Coast

from combined reports

The East Central Community College Warriors got back in the MACJC South Division race last week as they swept Hinds Community College and Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College.

The Warriors swept Hinds (13-5, 4-3) and Gulf Coast (7-1, 6-1) to improve to 4-2 in the division.

EC brought a 16-10 overall record into this week.

In this week's action, EC is scheduled to host Jones today and go to Pearl River on Saturday for a pair of division doubleheaders.

EC	**13-4**
Hinds	**5-3**

The Warriors improved to 14-10 overall and 2-2 in the division with the sweep at Raymond on March 20.

In the opener, Carlos Leal of Puerto Rico and Tim Anderson of Hillcrest (Ala.) High School blasted four singles each to lead the EC offense, which outhit the Eagles by a 19-7 margin. Leal also had three RBI.

Xzavier Franklin of Newton County had three singles and two RBI. Ricardo Velez had two doubles, Kalik May had a single and a triple, and Nick Hodges had two singles.

Xavier Franklin

Starter Casey Wells was the winning pitcher. He allowed four earned runs on four hits through 5 1/3 innings.

In the second contest, Fred Hampton and Kyle Henson both doubled to lead the EC offense.

Anderson, Velez, Leal, Terrance Steele, and David McAdory each had a single.

Henson, McAdory, and May were each credited with an RBI.

Jordan Mixon, one of six EC hurlers in the nightcap, got the win in relief. He hurled two scoreless innings and walked a batter.

EC	**7-6**
Gulf Coast	**1-1**

The Warriors improved to 16-10 overall and 4-2 in the MACJC South Division with Sunday's doubleheader sweep of Gulf Coast in Decatur.

Ricardo Velez doubled and singled and knocked in two runs and Carlos Leal blasted two singles and had three RBI to lead EC's offense in the opener. Both are from Puerto Rico.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON ____

MERIDIAN STAR ____

MOCRAT ____

Y. TIMES ____

NTY JOURNAL ____

ER ____

WEEK OF April 8, 2012

SPORTS

Warriors get 20th win with sweep

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR — Winning ways continue for the East Central Community College Diamond Warriors who improved to 20-12 overall and 8-4 in the MACJC South Division following a pair of victories over Copiah-Lincoln Community College Tuesday, April 3 at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex in Decatur.

East Central rallied for an 8-5 victory in the opener and held on for a 6-5 decision in the nightcap to sweep the Wolves, who dropped to 15-14-1 and 2-10.

Ricardo Velez and Carlos Leal, both of Puerto Rico, each doubled and singled to lead the EC offense, which tallied four runs in the third inning and four and sixth to claim the win. Velez was also credited with two RBIs.

Other sluggers were Kalik May of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County High School, Tim Anderson of Hillcrest (Ala.) High School and Kyle Henson of Starkville Academy, singles each.

Runs were scored by May (2), Anderson (2), Terrance Steele of Neshoba Central (2), Velez and Jared Seymour of St. Martin.

Co-Lin scored one run in the first inning and four in the fifth.

Right-hander Fernando Gonzalez of Puerto Rico picked up the win in relief. Gonzales hurled a scoreless 1 2/3 innings and allowed one hit. Starter Severino of Deer Creek went 3 2/3 innings and allowed three earned runs on four hits. The right-hander fanned one batter and walked five. Right-hander Evan Humphries of Louisville pitched 1 2/3 innings and allowed one hit.

In the second game, EC jumped out to 2-0 lead then fell behind when the visiting Wolves scored three runs in the top of the third inning. But the Diamond Warriors took the lead for good in the bottom of the frame following a two-run triple by Xzavier Franklin of Newton County, which scored David McAdory of Louisville and Velez.

ECCC hosts division foe Southwest Mississippi Community College Wednesday, April 11, in doubleheader action getting under way at 3 p.m. at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex.

APPEARED

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF April 8, 2012

Diamond Warriors take pair from

from combined reports

East Central Community College went 3-1 on the baseball diamond last week as the Diamond Warriors upped their overall record to 21-13.

The Diamond Warriors swept Copiah-Lincoln (8-5, 6-5) and split a pair of games with Northwest Mississippi, winning 16-6 and losing 3-1.

In this week's action, the Diamond Warriors are scheduled to host Southwest Mississippi today and Hinds on Saturday.

EC	**8-6**
Copiah-Lincoln	**5-5**

Winning ways continued for the Diamond Warriors who improved to 20-12 overall and 8-4 in the MACJC South Division with the April 3 sweep of Co-Lin in Decatur.

Ricardo Velez and Carlos Leal, both of Puerto Rico, both doubled and singled to lead the EC offense, which tallied four

MACJC South Division
Through April 8

Jones	9-4
East Central	8-4
Hinds	7-4
Gulf Coast	6-8
Southwest	6-8
Pearl River	5-7
Co-Lin	4-10

Co-Lin, split with NW

runs in the third inning and four in the sixth to claim the win. Velez was also credited with two RBI.

Kalik May of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County High School, Tim Anderson of Hillcrest (Ala.) High School, and Kyle Henson of Starkville Academy each had a single.

Co-Lin scored one run in the first inning and four in the fifth.

Fernando Gonzalez of Puerto Rico picked up the win in relief. He hurled a scoreless 1 2/3 innings and allowed one hit.

EC starter Severino of Deer Creek Academy went 3 2/3 innings and allowed three earned runs on four hits. Evan Humphries pitched 1 2/3 innings in relief and allowed one hit.

In the second game, EC

See Warriors, 3-B...

Warriors...

From 2-B...

jumped out to 2-0 lead then fell behind when the visiting Wolves scored three runs in the top of the third inning.

But EC took the lead for good in the bottom of the frame following a two-run triple by Xzavier Franklin of Newton County.

Fred Hampton of Nanih Waiya led hitters with two singles. Anderson had a double and Velez had a single and knocked in two runs.

Starter Blake Dubuisson was the winning pitcher and right-hander Casey Wells was credited with the save.

Dubuisson went four innings and allowed four earned runs on six hits.

Jordan Mixon hurled an inning and allowed one earned run on two hits.

Wells hurled a scoreless seventh inning and fanned two. He also walked a batter.

Co-Lin dropped to 15-14-1 and 2-10.

EC	**16-1**
Northwest	**6-3**

Following the split decision in Friday's non-division doubleheader, EC's record stood at 21-13 overall while the host Rangers are 16-16.

In the opener, the Diamond Warriors spotted Northwest a 4-0 lead in the first inning, but responded with seven runs in the top of the second. EC added six more in fourth before closing out the scoring onslaught with two runs in the sixth.

Carlos Leal of Puerto Rico belted three singles to lead EC's offense.

Tim Anderson and Kyle Henson both had two singles and two RBI. Fred Hampton, Kalik May, and Terrance Steele each had a single and two RBI.

Jordan Mixon of East Webster picked up the win in relief. He allowed two hits and no earned runs through four innings of work. He also fanned three and walked three.

In the second contest, EC outhit Northwest by a 7-2 margin but could not generate enough runs for a victory.

The Rangers scored twice in the fourth inning and added a single run in the fifth to earn a split of the doubleheader.

Hampton had two singles and knocked in EC's only run.

Starter Marc Cruso of Harrison Central took the loss.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

WEEK OF April 8, 2012

Massey's walkoff hit helps ECCC earn South Division sweep of Hinds

from school reports

Marlee Massey's walk-off infield single in the bottom of the ninth inning with the bases loaded scored Tenna Patterson and provided East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball team with a dramatic 8-7 victory over Hinds last Thursday on the Decatur campus.

The MACJC South Division matchup was previously scheduled as the second game of a doubleheader April 2 but was postponed due to inclement weather. East Central won the April 2 contest by an 8-3 margin.

With the sweep, the Lady Diamond Warriors improved to 26-9 overall and 10-4 in league competition. EC is currently tied with Gulf Coast for second place. The Lady Bulldogs are 19-7 overall. Jones County leads the division at 14-2 and has a 28-5 overall mark.

Massey's game-winning hit capped a three-run ninth inning and was followed by Haylee Roberts' two-run homer which tied the contest at 7-7.

EC trailed the visitors 5-4 in the seventh when Kelsi Watson's single scored Mary Sanders of Adams Christian and sent the key division battle into extra innings.

Roberts, a sophomore from Enterprise, also belted a single and finished with four RBIs.

Other top sluggers were Patterson, a product of Lexington (Ala.) High School, four singles and an RBI; Massey, of Neshoba Central, three singles and an RBI; A.J. Peeler, also of Neshoba Central, double, single and an RBI; Watson, a Smithville product, two singles and an RBI; Haelie Allen of Leake Academy, two singles; and Kaetlen Brown of Edgewood (Ala.) Academy, single.

Patterson went the distance in the nine-inning battle to record the victory. She allowed three earned runs on eight hits. She also fanned eight batters and walked five.

The Lady Warriors were to host Jones Tuesday. EC hosts Copiah-Lincoln College Saturday, April 14 in doubleheader action getting under way at 1 p.m.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT 2x

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF April 8, 2012

ECCC's Diamond Warriors split at Northwest

from school reports

After cruising 16-6 in the opener, East Central Community College's baseball squad was edged 3-1 in the nightcap of a twin bill with Northwest Mississippi Friday on the Senatobia campus.

Following the split decision of the non-division doubleheader, EC's record stood at 21-13 overall while the host Rangers are 16-16. The Diamond Warriors are 8-4 in the MACJC South Division.

In the opener, the Diamond Warriors spotted Northwest a 4-0 lead in the first inning but responded with seven runs in the top of the second. EC added a run in the third and six more in fourth before closing out the scoring onslaught with two runs in the sixth inning.

The Rangers added single runs in the second and fourth innings to complete their scoring.

Carlos Leal of Puerto Rico belted three singles to lead EC's offense. He also collected an RBI.

Other sluggers were Tim Anderson of Hillcrest (Ala.) High School and Kyle Henson of Starkville Academy, two singles and two RBIs each; Fred Hampton of Nanih Waiya, Kalik May of Tuscaloosa County (Ala.) and Terrance Steele of Neshoba Central, single and two RBIs each; Rubert Alcantara of the Dominican Republic, single and RBI; and Xzavier Franklin of Newton County, single. Ricardo Velez of Puerto Rico was credited with two RBIs.

Hampton, May, Anderson, Leal, Alcantara, Henson and Steele scored two runs each, and Velez and Franklin each scored once.

Right-hander Jordan Mixon of East Webster picked up the win in relief. He allowed two hits and no earned runs through four innings of work. He also fanned three batters and walked three. Starter Shawn Wiseman hurled 1/3 inning and allowed three earned runs on two hits. The right-hander fanned a batter and walked two.

Right-hander Evan Humphries of Louisville hurled the final 1 2/3 innings. He fanned two batters and walked one.

In the second contest, EC outhit Northwest by a 7-2 margin but could not generate enough runs for a victory.

The Rangers scored twice in the fourth inning and added a single run in the fifth to earn a split of the doubleheader. EC's run came in the seventh inning.

Hampton had two singles and knocked in EC's only run to lead the offense. Anderson also belted singles.

Other hitters were May, Velez and Steele, singles each. Steele scored the lone run.

Starter Marc Cruso of Harrison Central took the loss. The right-hander allowed two earned runs on two hits through four innings of work. He also fanned four batters and walked three. Right-hander Fernando Gonzalez of Puerto Rico hurled the final two innings and fanned five batters.

The Diamond Warriors return to South Division action Wednesday, April 11, when they host Southwest Mississippi in a doubleheader beginning at 3 p.m. at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex.

EC battles division foe Hinds Saturday, April 14. The twinbill gets under way at 1 p.m. at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex.

East Central's baseball program is led by head coach Neal Holliman and assistants Justin Brewer and Jack Edmonson.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF April 15, 2012

Diamond Warriors split twin bills with Southwest, Hinds

from combined reports

East Central Community College's Diamond Warriors split MACJC South Division baseball doubleheaders with Southwest Mississippi and Hinds last week to stay in the thick of the league pennant race.

This week, the Diamond Warriors (23-15) were scheduled to go to Mississippi Gulf Coast on Tuesday and play at Jones on Saturday.

EC	**3 - 5**
SW Mississippi	**1 - 9**

The Warriors came away with a split with the Bears in last Wednesday's doubleheader in Decatur.

EC's record went to 22-14 overall and 9-5 in league play, while Southwest's went to 15-21 and 7-9.

In the first game, EC scored single runs in the second, third, and fifth innings. Southwest scored its only run in the sixth.

MACJC South Division
Through April 15

Jones	10-5
Hinds	11-6
East Central	10-6
Gulf Coast	8-10
Pearl River	8-10
Southwest	7-9
Co-Lin	5-13

Kalik May led the Diamond Warrior offense with a double and three singles. Neshoba County High School product Xzavier Franklin contributed two singles and one single. Hits were registered by Victor Hampton, Tim Anderson, Ricardo Velez, and Carlos Leal.

Casey Wells picked up the win and Brock Ward was credited with the save.

hurled five scoreless innings and allowed one hit. Ward pitched the final 1 1/3 innings and did not allow a hit or run.

In the second game, EC held a 3-1 advantage until the fourth inning when the visiting Bears scored seven runs.

May, Anderson, and Velez had two singles each to lead the offense.

See Split, 3-B...

Split...

From 2-B

Other hitters were Leal with a double and two RBI, David McAdory with a single and two RBI, and Hampton and Kyle Henson both had a single.

EC starter Blake Dubuisson took the loss, allowing six earned runs on five hits in three innings.

Hinds	**6 - 12**

run on five hits through 2 2/3 innings. He fanned four and walked two.

In the second contest, EC overcame an early 8-1 deficit thanks to a nine-run fourth inning that put the Diamond Warriors ahead to stay. East Central, which led 1-0 after the second inning, added single runs in the fifth and sixth innings and held on for the victory.

Anderson

Ionio's Detail Shop
518 S. Decatur St. - Union
Across from the cemetary
601-663-6204
Mon.-Fri. 8 to 4 Sat. 8 to 2
Auto Detailing, Wash, Wax & Vacuum
We treat your vehicle with the care and attention it deserves

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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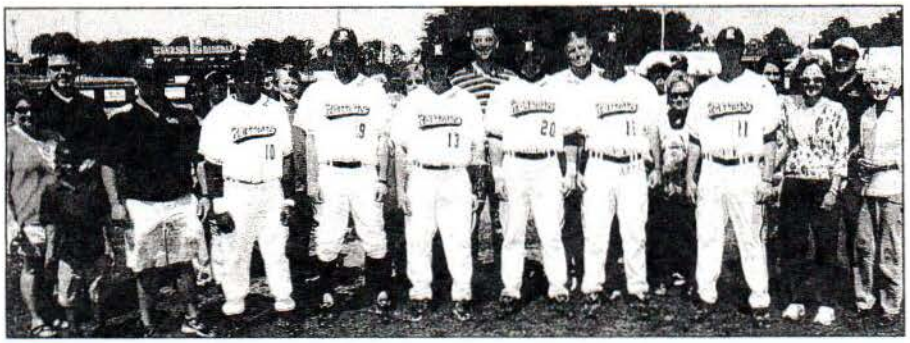
WEEK OF April 29, 2012

Diamond Warriors



ECCC Sophomore Diamond Warriors Honored

Sophomores on the 2012 East Central Community College baseball team were honored during pre-game activities of the Diamond Warriors' doubleheader with Pearl River Community College Wednesday, April 25 at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex on the Decatur campus. Honorees, who were joined by family and friends for the special recognition, include (from left) manager Jake Frazier, a product of Carthage High School; outfielder Fred Hampton (10), Nanih Waiya; right-handed pitcher Evan Humphries (19), Louisville; catcher Carlos Leal (13), Colegio San Ignacio High School, Guaynabo, Puerto Rico; first baseman/outfielder Ricardo Velez (20), Colegio LaMerced High School, Trujillo Alto, Puerto Rico; and right-handed pitchers Brock Ward (15) of Louisville and Casey Wells (11) of West Jones. The talented squad members were congratulated by head coach Neal Holliman and assistants Justin Brewer and Jack Edmonson during the ceremony. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF April 29, 2012

McAdory Congratulated Following Homer

East Central Community College freshman baseball player David McAdory (3) of Louisville is congratulated by teammates after his solo homer in the sixth inning of the opener with Pearl River Community College Wednesday, April 25 tied the contest at 7-7. East Central added three more runs in the inning and held on for a 10-7 victory. The Diamond Warriors were unable to complete the doubleheader sweep and fell 15-6 in the nightcap of the key MACJC South Division battle held at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex in Decatur. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF April 29, 2012

ECCC Diamond Warriors swept by Co-Lin; prepare for state playoffs

East Central Community College's baseball squad concluded regular season competition by dropping a twin bill to Copiah-Lincoln Community Saturday, April 28 on the Wesson campus.

The playoff-bound Diamond Warriors were victims of a no-hitter in an 8-0 loss in the opener and were unable to hold a 3-0 lead in the nightcap and fell 6-3.

East Central takes a 25-21 overall mark into a best of three series with Itawamba Community College scheduled May 4-5 on the Fulton campus. The first game is set for 6 p.m. Friday and the second contest will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday. A third game – if necessary – will follow the 2 p.m. matchup.

The Diamond Warriors finished fourth in the MACJC South Division with a 12-12 mark. ICC's Indians won the MACJC North Division with a 19-5 record. The Indians are 35-9 overall. The ECCC/Itawamba winner advances to the MACJC State Tournament scheduled May 10-12 and hosted by the highest-seeded North Division squad.

In the first game with Co-Lin, starter Blake Dubuisson took the loss, allowing four runs on four hits through 1 2/3 innings. The right-hander from Long Beach fanned a batter and walked two. He was relieved by right-hander Evan Humphries of Louisville, who went 2 2/3 innings and allowed one run on three hits. He fanned one batter and walked two. Marc Cruso, a right-hander from Harrison Central, relieved Humphries in the fifth inning and allowed two runs on two hits. He also walked two batters. Right-hander Brock Ward of Louisville finished the game, allowing one hit in 1 1/3 innings. He also walked a batter.

In the second game, EC jumped out to a 3-0, first-inning lead following a two-run homer by Tim Anderson of Hillcrest (Ala.) High School and an RBI-double by Rubert Alcantara of the Dominican Republic.

Anderson and Alcantara were also credited with singles each to lead the EC offense. Other hitters were Kyle Henson of Starkville Academy, Ricardo Velez of Puerto Rico and Xavier Franklin, a product of Newton County High School.

Co-Lin tied the contest in the fourth inning and grabbed a 4-3 advantage following a solo shot by Jonathan Santana, who belted a grand slam in the first game.

The Wolves added two more runs in the sixth inning and held on for the win. Co-Lin finished the season at 23-21-1 overall and 8-16 in league play.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF April 1, 2012

Central's Woods signs ECCC scholarship

Leake Central senior Caleb Woods, seated center, has signed a baseball scholarship with East Central Community College. Woods was joined by his parents, Linda and Gene Woods, as well as, standing, from left, LCHS assistant coach Josh Hayes, LCHS head coach Mike Tucker and ECCC head coach Neal Holliman.

PPEARED IN:

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IRIT OF MORTON _____

RIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF Mar 6, 2012

Warriors close out season with losses at ICC

The 2012 baseball season ended for the East Central Community College Diamond Warriors with 8-7 and 12-6 losses to Itawamba in the MACJC best-of-three series last weekend.

from combined reports

EC concluded its season with a 25-23 record under sixth-year head coach Neal Holliman.

Holliman was obviously disappointed with the results of the weekend series, but praised squad members for their efforts throughout the season.

"I was proud of our guys and the way they fought through adversity this year in the fact that we had several injuries," said Holliman. "We certainly didn't accomplish the things we set out to do and that is my responsibility, but we will regroup and go again next year. This was a very enjoyable group to be around and we will certainly miss this group of sophomores."

MACJC First-Round Series

Itawamba	8 - 12
East Central	7 - 6
Hinds	14 - 11
Northwest	5 - 7
Jones	6 - 11
Miss. Delta	1 - 3
Gulf Coast	7 - 5
Northeast	5 - 0

Itawamba improved to 37-9 heading to the MACJC State Tournament which begins Thursday at Fulton. Itawamba is ranked No. 8 nationally in the NJCAA Division II poll.

Itawamba 8
EC 7

Fred Hampton's three-run homer in the eighth inning followed by Ricardo Velez's three-run blast in the ninth rallied EC from an 8-1 deficit Friday but the Indians held on for the one-run victory.

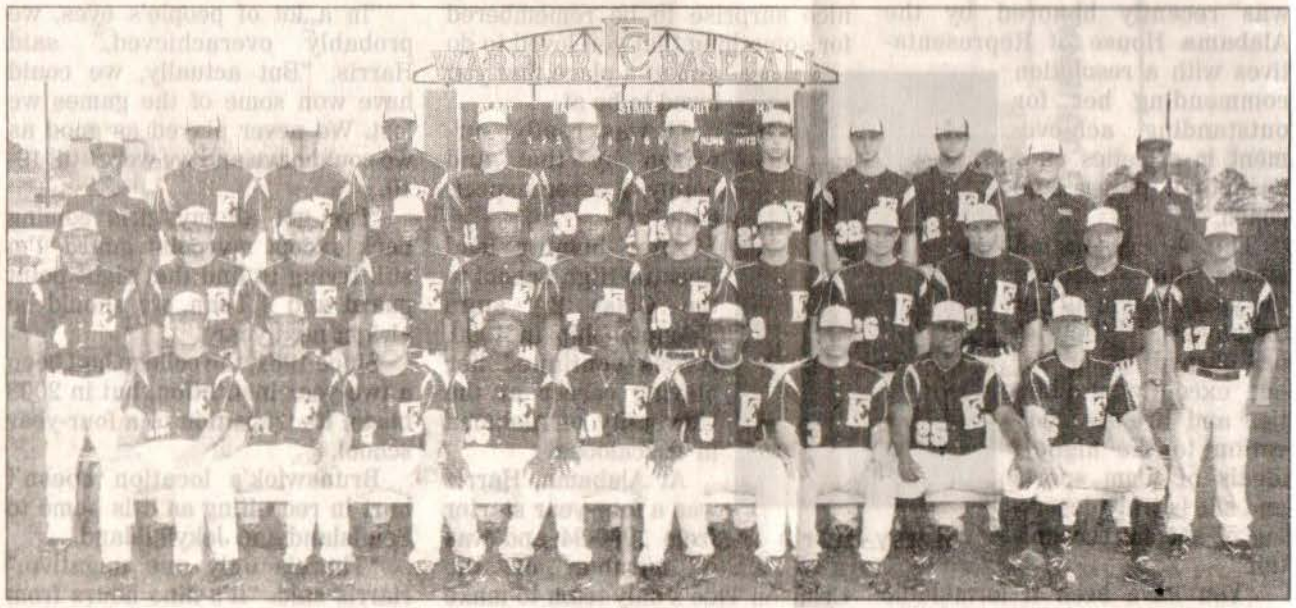
Hampton and Velez also singled and finished with three RBIs each to lead the EC offense.

Tim Anderson had a double and a single.

Severino Signa took the loss. He allowed two earned runs on one hit through 2 2/3 innings.

Itawamba 12
EC 6

See Warriors, 10-A...



Members of the 2012 East Central Community College baseball team and their respective high schools include (front row, from left) Caleb McKee, Neshoba Central; Kyle Henson, Starkville Academy; Dustin Floyd and Robert Greer, both of Neshoba Central; Fred Hampton, Nanih Waiya; Xzavier Franklin, Newton County; David McAdory, Louisville; Rubert Alcantare, St. George, Dominican Republic; and Nick Hodges, Vancleave; (second row) assistant coach Jack Edmonson; Jared Seymour, St. Martin; Carlos Leal, Colegio San Ignacio, Puerto Rico; Blake Cunningham, Louisville; Terrance Steele, Neshoba Central; Tim Anderson, Hillcrest, Tuscaloosa, Ala.; Severino Signa, Deer Creek; Jordan Mixon, East Webster; Marc Cruso, Harrison Central; Ricardo Velez, Colegio La Merced, Puerto Rico; head coach Neal Holliman and assistant coach Justin Brewer; and (back row) manager Nicholas Newell, Jackson; Brock Ward, Louisville; Fernando Gonzalez, Colegio San Ignacio, Puerto Rico; Kalik May, Tuscaloosa County, Alabama; Casey Wells, West Jones; Blake Dubuisson, Long Beach; Evan Humphries, Louisville; Coy Sorenson, Kosciusko; Shawn Wiseman, Richton; Ryan Shotts, Louisville; and managers Jake Frasier, Carthage; and Deterron Hardin, Louisville.

ECCC photo

May 6, 2012

Itawamba bounces ECCC from playoffs

Warriors end season with 25-23 mark

After Fred Hampton's two-run homer in the top of the seventh inning tied the contest at 6-6, East Central Community College's Diamond Warriors appeared to have regained the momentum after trailing 6-2 in the second game of the best of three series with Itawamba Community College Saturday afternoon in Fulton.

But the host Indians had other ideas and reclaimed the lead for good in the bottom of the frame following a solo blast by Chris Hanning.

Itawamba sealed EC's fate with five runs in the eighth for a 12-6 victory, sending the Diamond Warriors home without a victory in the playoff series leading up to the MACJC State Baseball Tournament.

EC's rally fell short Friday night in an 8-7 setback.

The Diamond Warriors, who qualified for post-season play by finishing fourth in the MACJC South Division with a 12-12 mark, completed the 2012 campaign with a 25-23 record under sixth-year head coach Neal Holliman and first-year assistants Justin Brewer and Jack Edmonson.

Holliman was obviously disappointed with the results of the weekend series but praised squad members for their efforts throughout the season.

"I was proud of our guys and the way they fought through adversity this year in the fact that we had several injuries," said Holliman. "We certainly didn't accomplish the things we set out to do and that is my responsibility, but we will regroup and go again next year. This was a very enjoyable group to be around and we will certainly miss this group of sophomores."

Hampton, a sophomore outfielder and product of Nanih Waiya High School, also singled for EC in Saturday's matchup and finished with two RBIs. Other sluggers were Rubert Alcantara of the Dominican Republic and Xzavier Franklin, a product of Newton County High School, two singles each; Tim Anderson of Hillcrest (Ala.) High School, Ricardo Velez of Puerto Rico and Nic Hodges of St. Martin High School, doubles each; and Kalik May of Tuscaloosa County and Kyle Henson of Starkville Academy, singles each. Hodges was also credited with two RBIs, and Anderson and Velez knocked in a run each.

Evan Humphries, a right-hander from Louisville, took the loss in relief. Humphries hurled three innings and allowed one run on one hit. He fanned three batters and walked two.

Starter Fernando Gonzalez of Puerto Rico went 2 2/3 innings and allowed five earned runs on six hits. He fanned a batter and walked one. EC used seven pitchers in the loss and four hurlers appeared on the mound in the eighth inning, when all five runs scored on walks or batters hit by pitches with the bases loaded.

In Friday's game, Hampton's three-run homer in the eighth inning followed by Velez's three-run blast in the ninth rallied EC from an 8-1 deficit but the Indians held on for the one-run victory.

Hampton and Velez also singled and finished with three RBIs each to lead the offense.

Other hitters were Anderson, double and single; and May, Franklin and Alcantara, singles each. David McAdory of Louisville was credited with an RBI.

Right-hander Severino Signa of Deer Creek took the loss. He allowed two earned runs on one hit through 2 2/3 innings. He fanned a batter and walked five.

Brock Ward hurled 5 1/3 innings in relief and allowed four earned runs on three hits. The right-hander from Louisville fanned three batters and walked two.

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WEEK OF May 13, 2012

ECCC slugger

ECCC Slugger

East Central Community College slugger Fred Hampton (10) of Louisville and teammates celebrate his two-run homer in the top of the seventh inning that tied the score at 6-6 with Itawamba Community College Saturday, May 5 on the Fulton campus. The Indians pulled away for a 12-6 decision to claim the best of three series and advance to the MACJC State Baseball Tournament scheduled May 10-12, also in Fulton. Hampton belted a three-run homer in EC's 8-7 loss to Itawamba Friday night. Hampton is a product of Nanih Waiya High School. The Diamond Warriors complete season action with a 25-23 record under sixth-year head coach Neal Holliman. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

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WEEK OF May 13, 2012

ECCC Baseball Scholar Athlete

Evan Humphries of Louisville received the scholar athlete award in baseball at the annual East Central Community College Spring Sports Awards Banquet held May 1, 2012, on the Decatur campus. Humphries, a right-handed hurler and product of Louisville High School, was presented the award by ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin. ECCC's baseball program is led by head coach Neal Holliman and assistants Justin Brewer and Jack Edmonson. (EC Photo)

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

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WEEK OF May 13, 2012

EC baseball falls to Itawamba in playoff series

from school reports

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But the host Indians had other ideas and reclaimed the lead for good in the bottom of the frame following a solo blast by Chris Hanning. Itawamba sealed EC's fate with five runs in the eighth for a 12-6 victory, sending the Diamond Warriors home without a victory in the playoff series leading up to the MACJC State Baseball Tournament. EC's rally fell short Friday night in an 8-7 setback.

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Holliman was obviously disappointed with the results of the weekend series but praised squad members for their efforts throughout the season.

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Hodges was also credited with two RBIs, and Anderson and Velez knocked in a run each.

Evan Humphries, a right-hander from Louisville, took the loss in relief. Humphries hurled three

up to win the MHSAA Class 3A Mixed Doubles tennis championships Parham Bridges in Jackson.

"No one thought we would w Gamblin said. "But we kept playi

Rockets loo

By STEVE SWOGE
Sports Editor

Neshoba Central coach Chuc focused on what he had learned 35-23 loss his Rocket team h Noxubee County in its spring gam

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WEEK OF May 20, 2012

ECCC baseball awards announced

East Central Community College presented awards for baseball following the Warriors' 25-23 season.

Evan Humphries of Louisville received Scholar Athlete, Team Captain Award, Jamie Clark Award, and Most Improved Pitcher; Carlos Leal of Puerto Rico, received Team Captain Award and co-recipient of Most Valuable Defensive Player Award; Fred Hampton of Nanih Waiya also received the Team Captain Award; Tim Anderson of Hillcrest (Ala.) High School received the Most Valuable Player and was co-recipient of Most Valuable Defensive Player Award; Brock Ward of Louisville was named Most Valuable Pitcher; and Xzavier Franklin of Newton County High School was named the Most Improved Position Player.

Xzavier Franklin

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WEEK OF June 3, 2012

ECCC's Leal drafted by Pirates

Paula Merritt/The Meridian Star

East Central Community Central catcher Carlos Leal looks a Jones County Junior College runner back to base after hauling in a popup earlier this year. Leal was drafted Wednesday in the 33rd round of the Major League Baseball First-Year Player Draft by Pittsburgh.

By Jamie Wachter
jwachter@themeridianstar.com

If Neal Holliman had his choice, he would gladly keep Carlos Leal at East Central Community College forever.

He won't get that chance, though, as Leal, who has signed to play at Delta State, was also drafted Wednesday in the 33rd round of the Major League Baseball First-Year Player Draft by Pittsburgh.

"I heard someone say this the other day and it really applie to Carlos, 'It's really nice when your best players are your best people with the best work ethic,'" Holliman said.

"He's just one of those guys that you can't say enough good things about. He was a phenomenal leader, his work ethic was off the charts. He was good in the classroom. You don't get a chance to coach guys like that every day."

And that hard work paid off. Entering the ECCC program undrafted out of Puerto Rico, Leal hit .321 this past season with four home runs, six doubles and 27 RBIs.

That success at the plate came as the result of a work ethic that even wore down Holliman at times.

"He got into the program and he

See LEAL on page B2

LEAL from page B1

worked," he said. "It's not like we lifted the magic wand over his head. He worked. He graduated from school after the fall and was just taking enough classes to satisfy eligibility requirements. So he would be calling me every day at 10 a.m. asking me if we could go hit. Coach, can we go hit. I was like, 'Well dang Carlos, I need to do a little work in the office sometime.'

"You see guys who get drafted because they are great athletes but don't have the best work ethic but you don't exactly desire to have from a attitude standpoint, but he's Grade A, deserves everything that comes to him."

But Leal's biggest impact came on the defensive end. Compiling a .929 fielding percentage behind the plate, Leal completely silenced opponents' running games.

"He just shut down the running game," Holliman said. "He didn't throw out many guys. His percentage was unbelievable, but nobody would run on him. Out of respect, they wouldn't even try. He shut down the running game, but realistically he didn't have to do much."

That impact was noticed as well. The 6-foot, 190-pounder was a first-team MACJC All-State selection and was also named All-Region 23, where he was a unanimous choice on a team that featured one catcher.

Leal is the fourth player in four years drafted out of ECCC and is the second local prospect drafted by Pittsburgh this year, as the Pirates took Meridian Community College freshman outfielder Johnathan Youngblood in the 15th round Tuesday.

APPEARED IN:

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

nc 10, 2012

ECCC Baseball players receiving post-season honors

Sophomore catcher Carlos Leal and freshman middle infielder/outfielder Tim Anderson head a list of East Central Community College baseball players who received honors following the 2012 campaign.

Both players were selected All-Region 23 and were named first team MACJC All-State.

Leal is the only catcher named on the All-Region team and was a unanimous choice at the position throughout the MACJC (Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges), according to Diamond Warrior head coach Neal Holliman who had high praises for the 6', 190-pound product from Puerto Rico.

"Carlos has been a tremendous asset to the baseball program at East Central," said Holliman. "His work ethic, loyalty and leadership are prime examples of what we desire in our program. He has already signed a national letter of intent with Delta State University, but very possibly will be selected in the 2012 Major League Draft. He will definitely have some decisions to make for the upcoming year as whether to go play professional baseball or continue his college career at Delta State.

Leal batted .321 with three home runs and six doubles. He collected 27 RBIs. Leal also received the Diamond Warriors' team captain award and was a co-recipient of most valuable defensive player honors.

Holliman said Anderson's selection to the All-Region team as a freshman is a "tremendous honor."

"Tim has continued to mature on the field and is growing into his abilities on a daily basis," said Holliman. "He will be playing this summer in the Jayhawk League in Dodge City, Kansas, which is one of the premier collegiate wooden bat leagues in the country."

Holliman said Anderson plans to return to EC for his sophomore season and expects the 6-1, 171-pound product of Hillcrest (Ala.) High School "to bring even more things to the table next year."

Anderson posted a team best .362 batting average and had four homers and nine doubles. He and first baseman/outfielder Ricardo Velez of Puerto Rico led the team with 39 RBIs each.

Velez joins fellow sophomores Fred Hampton, Evan Humphries and Casey Wells on the MACJC All-State Second Team

In addition to sharing RBI honors with Anderson, the 6', 205-pound Velez batted .304 with two home runs and 14 doubles.

Hampton, a 5-10, 200-pound outfielder, posted a .301 batting average and had three home runs and 10 doubles. He collected 32 RBIs. Hampton is a product of Nanih Waiya High School.

Humphries, a 6-3, 200-pound right-handed hurler, posted a 5-1 mark and had three saves. He had a 3.34 earned run average and fanned 20 batters. Humphries also received the Scholar Athlete, Team Captain and Jamie Clark awards

Humphries

Hampton

and was selected most improved pitcher. He is a product of Louisville High School.

Wells, a 6-2, 172-pound right-hander, also went 5-1 and was credited with one save. He posted a team-best 2.70 earned run average and fanned 31 batters. Wells is a product of West Jones High School in Laurel.

"We are very proud of all these young men who received post-season honors," said Holliman. "I feel all have benefited from being at East Central and we have certainly benefitted from them being in our program. We wish them all the best in their future endeavors."

The Diamond Warriors finished fourth in the MACJC South Division with a 12-12 record and advanced to the state playoffs en route to a 25-23 record.

Holliman's staff includes assistants Justin Brewer and Jack Edmonson.

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WEEK OF June 24, 2012

EC's Leal taken in MLB draft

from school reports

After two standout seasons at East Central Community College in Decatur, catcher Carlos Leal has a tough decision to make regarding his baseball career.

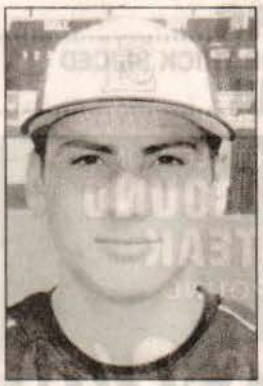
Leal, who late last fall signed a letter of intent with Delta State University in Cleveland, was drafted in the 33rd round of the 2012 Major League Baseball First-Year Player Draft by the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Although he has not decided which path he will take, Leal was obviously excited about the prospect of playing Major League baseball.

"It means a lot to me," said the Puerto Rico native regarding his opportunity to play in the big leagues. "Getting drafted and getting a chance to play professional baseball is great and I am very excited."

ECCC head baseball coach Neal Holliman said Leal is well deserving of the attention he has received, especially from Major League baseball.

"He's just one of those guys that you cannot say enough about," said Holliman of the 6-foot, 190-pound product of Guaynabo, Puerto Rico. "Carlos was a phenomenal leader; his work ethic was off the charts. He was also a good student in the classroom. You don't get a chance to coach guys like that every day."



Carlos Leal

Leal's hard work obviously paid off for the Diamond Warriors' team captain as he was the only catcher named on the NJCAA All-Region 23 team and was a unanimous selection for first team MACJC All-State honors following the 2012 campaign.

He batted .321 with three home runs, six doubles, and 27 RBIs. But he was most impressive on defense, where he compiled a .929 fielding percentage behind the plate and almost completely silenced opponents' running games.

"He just shut down the running game," Holliman said. "He did not throw out many guys ... because no one would run on him. Out of respect, they wouldn't even try."

But it's more than just "stats" that make Leal a standout student-athlete.

"It's really nice when your best players are your best people with the best work ethic," said Holliman. "You see guys who get drafted because they are great athletes but don't have the best work ethic...Carlos has it all ... he's Grade A ... and deserves everything that comes to him."

"I am very thankful for the opportunity that coach Holliman and ECCC gave me to study and play baseball," Leal said.

Leal is the fourth player in four years drafted from the Diamond Warrior program.

APPEARED IN:

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF July 29, 2012

ECCC Diamond Warriors Leal, Anderson receive region/state honors

Submitted

Sophomore catcher Carlos Leal and freshman middle infielder/outfielder Tim Anderson head a list of East Central Community College baseball players who received honors following the 2012 campaign.

Both players were selected All-Region 23 and were named first team MACJC All-State.

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Holliman said Anderson's selection to the All-Region team as a freshman is a "tremendous honor."

"Tim has continued to mature on the field and is growing into his abilities on a daily basis," said Holliman. "He will be playing this summer in the Jayhawk League in Dodge City, Kansas, which is one of the premier collegiate wooden bat leagues in the country."

Holliman said Anderson plans to return to EC for his sophomore season and expects the 6-1, 171-pound product of Hillcrest (Ala.) High School "to bring even more things to the table next year."

Anderson posted a team best .362 batting average and had four homers and nine doubles. He and first baseman/outfielder Ricardo Velez of Puerto Rico led the team with 39 RBIs each.

Velez joins fellow sophomores Fred Hampton, Evan Humphries and Casey Wells on the MACJC All-State Second Team. In addition to sharing RBI honors with Anderson, the 6', 205-pound Velez batted .304 with two home runs and 14 doubles.

Hampton, a 5-10, 200-pound outfielder, posted a .301 batting average and had three home runs and 10 doubles. He collected 32 RBIs. Hampton is a product of Nanih Waiya High School.

Humphries, a 6-3, 200-pound right-handed hurler, posted a 5-1 mark and had three saves. He had a 3.34 earned run average and fanned 20 batters. Humphries also received the Scholar Athlete, Team Captain and Jamie Clark awards and was selected most improved pitcher. He is a product of Louisville High School.

Wells, a 6-2, 172-pound right-hander, also went 5-1 and was credited with one save. He posted a team-best 2.70 earned run average and fanned 31 batters. Wells is a product of West Jones High School in Laurel.

"We are very proud of all these young men who received post-season honors," said Holliman. "I feel all have benefited from being at East Central and we have certainly benefitted from them being in our program. We wish them all the best in their future endeavors."

The Diamond Warriors finished fourth in the MACJC South Division with a 12-12 record and advanced to the state playoffs en route to a 25-23 record.

Holliman's staff includes assistants Justin Brewer and Jack Edmonson.

Carlos Leal

Tim Anderson

Ricardo Velez

Fred Hampton

Evan Humphries

Casey Wells

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

Meridian Impact ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF September 9, 2012

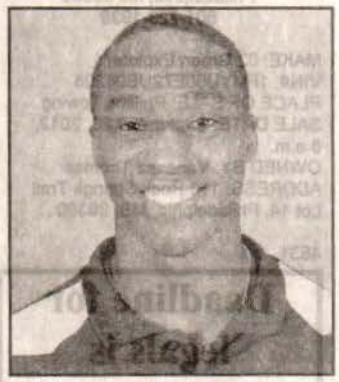
Former Diamond Warrior continuing career at Jackson St.

Former East Central Community College baseball standout Fred Hampton of Louisville has signed a national letter of intent to continue his career at Jackson State University.

Hampton, a 5-10, 200-pound outfielder, was a second team MACJC All-State selection and received the Diamond Warriors' team captain award following the 2012 campaign. He was also named to the MACJC Academic All-State Team.

The Nanih Waiya High School product posted a .301 batting average with three home runs, 10 doubles and 32 RBIs in helping lead the Diamond Warriors to the 2012 state playoffs en route to a 25-23 record.

"This young man absolutely made himself into a player," ECCC head baseball coach Neal Holliman said of the talented athlete. "He was a team captain in 2012 and was one of those players that you can truly rely on."



Fred Hampton

Hampton received All-District honors in high school and was selected best defensive player.

His parents are Freddie and Victoria Hampton of Louisville.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF November 25, 2012

ECCC Diamond Warriors Continuing Careers

Seated are members of the East Central Community College baseball team who are shown signing national letters of intent to continue their careers on the university level. From left are outfielders Xzavier Franklin and Terrance Steele, who both signed with Mississippi Valley State University; and shortstop Tim Anderson who inked with the University of Alabama-Birmingham. Franklin posted a .292 batting average and collected 14 RBIs in 2012. He is a product of Newton County High School, where his coach was EC alumnus Wyatt Tullos. Steele pounded 19 singles and four doubles and was credited with 15 RBIs. He is also one of the team's top base runners with 20 stolen bases. Steele is a product of Neshoba Central High School and played for EC alumnus Brian Jones. Anderson led the 2012 Diamond Warriors at the plate with a .362 batting average and 39 RBIs. He was also credited with four home runs, a triple and nine doubles and scored a team high 44 runs. Anderson is a product of Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa. His high school coach was Todd Agee. Standing from left are Diamond Warrior coaches Jack Edmonson, Neal Holliman (head) and Justin Brewer. "We are tremendously proud of all three young men," said Holliman. "Their success is another attribute of our program and represents our growth." Coach Holliman said several other sophomore players decided not to commit during the early signing period and will keep their options open until the spring. (EC Photo)

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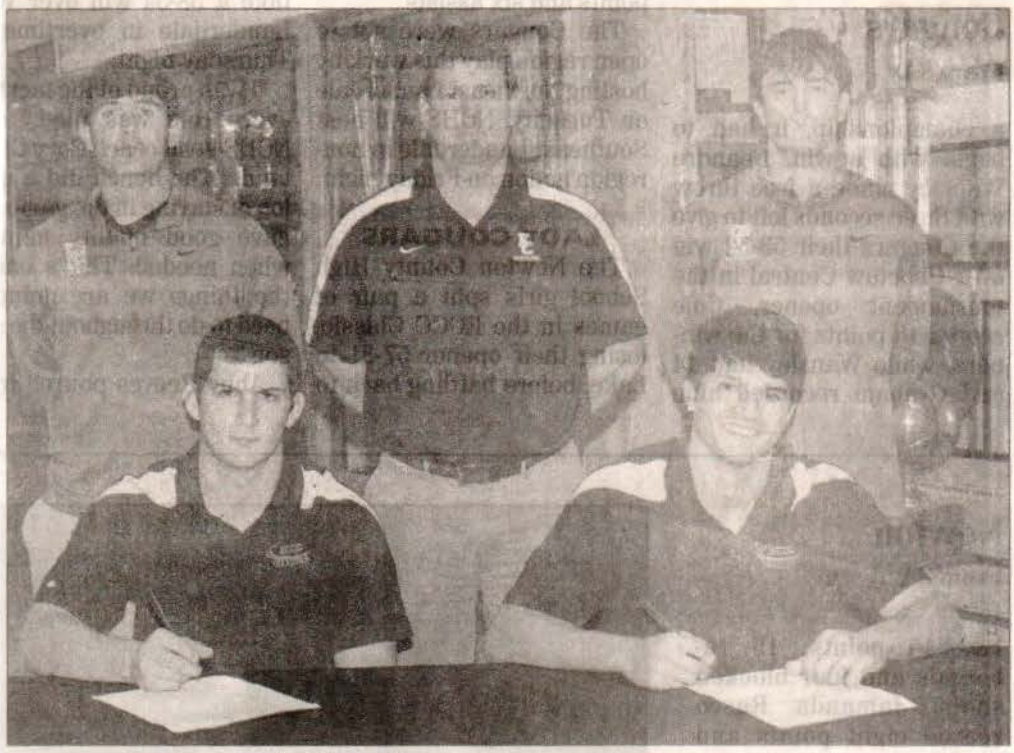
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL
CLARION-LEDGER

WEEK OF December 2, 2012



Two more sophomore members of the 2012-13 East Central Community College baseball team have signed national letters of intent to continue their careers on the university level. Seated from left are right-handed pitchers Mitchell Wooten of Carthage and Severino Signa of Stoneville, who both signed with the University of West Alabama in Livingston during a recent ceremony held in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus. Standing from left are ECCC baseball coaches Jack Edmonson, Neal Holliman (head) and Justin Brewer. Five sophomore players have now signed letters of intent with various four-year colleges and universities.

EC photo

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

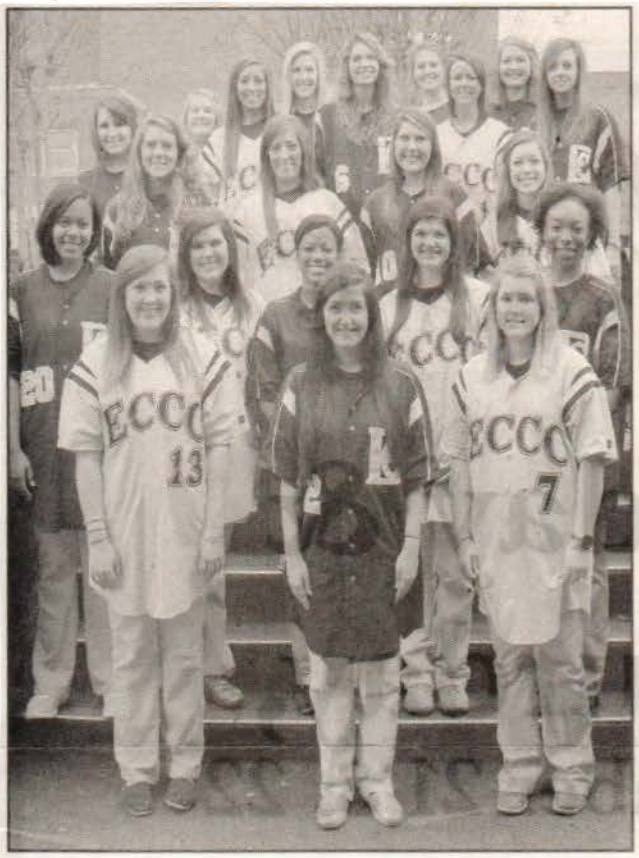
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF December 16, 2012



ECCC Diamond Darlings

Diamond Darlings for 2012-13 have been announced at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Diamond Darlings is an organization for female students that gives support to the Diamond Warrior baseball program. Members include front row, from left, Samantha Hill of Louisville, Jon Marie Baucum of Decatur and Shelby Johnston of Lena; second row, from left, are Jayohnnie Slaughter of Union, Kaitlin Dean of Decatur, and Hillary Williams, Hannah Jones and Shamiski Collier, all of Philadelphia; third row, from left, are Shelby Davis of Waterford, Lindsey Ezelle of Decatur, Taylor Gressett of Chunky, and Tori Atkinson of Philadelphia; fourth row, from left, are Robin Coker of Newton, Lauren Ezelle of Decatur, Emily Marler of Morton, Ally Loper of Philadelphia and Meghan Johnson of Lena; and fifth row, from left, are Leighanne Wright of Newton, Sandy Alexander of Little Rock, Courtney Mackey of Meridian and Emily Jacome-Cluff of Hickory. (EC Photo)

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1-877-462-3222 • www.eccc.edu

POSITION AVAILABLE
Head Coach
Women's Soccer

Deadline for Application
December 31, 2012
Date of Appointment
February 4, 2013

For more information contact:
Chris Harris, Athletic Director
Ph# 601-635-6401
e-mail: charris@eccc.edu

Specific job requirements available at
www.eccc.edu/employment

ECCC
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APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓ x2

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF January 15, 2012

ECCC swept by East Mississippi

from school reports

East Central Community College's basketball teams remained winless as they opened second semester action with homecourt losses to East Mississippi Community College on January 10.

Both EC teams fell to 0-11 with the losses.

This week, the Warriors and Lady Warriors were scheduled to go to Northwest Mississippi Community College on Tuesday and Southwest Mississippi Community College on Thursday.

East Mississippi 67
EC women 61

The EMCC women held a 41-28 advantage at halftime and pushed the lead to 18 points early in the second period.

But the Lady Warriors stormed back to take a 57-56 lead on a trey by Kelcia Bufkin with 2:35 left. EMCC responded and took the lead for good on a basket by Raishawnda Brantley. The visitors closed out the game with four straight free throws.

EC was once again led by sophomore guard Ja'Monica Orton, who pumped in 22 points and grabbed a team-best 10 rebounds. Bufkin tallied 15 points. Xzandra Dowd had eight and Jaianah Matthew added six.

Chadisty Hickman had 19 points to lead EMCC, 4-7.

East Mississippi 86
EC men 61

The Warriors were unable to overcome a 44-33 halftime deficit to remain winless in 11 starts.

Freshman guard Cordarion Nichols of Newton was the top point maker for EC with 15 points.

Akeem Topin had nine, TJ Leatherwood and Bobby Wrench both scored eight, and Jimmie Broomfield tossed in six.

Colin Borchert, D. J. Evans, and Deon Gedford each had 16 points to lead East Mississippi, 8-2.

EC golf team selling butts/ribs

from school reports

East Central Community College's golf team is offering Boston Butts and/or racks of ribs as a fundraising project, announced Chris Clark, golf coach.

Cost for either item is $25 or both may be purchased for $45.

The deadline for purchase is Monday, January 30.

Clark said delivery is scheduled Friday, Feb. 3, "just in time for the Super Bowl."

For more information, contact coach Chris Clark, 601-917-7396 or e-mail cclark@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL 2x

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF January 29, 2012

EC takes two wins at Hinds

from combined reports

East Central Community College swept Hinds before losing a pair of games to Copiah-Lincoln in last week's basketball action.

The Lady Warriors brought a 2-12 record into this week, while the Warriors were 1-13.

EC women 77
Hinds 70

Xzandra Dowd pumped in 22 points and grabbed 17 rebounds to lead the Lady Warriors, who improved to 2-11 overall and 2-2 in division play.

The Lady Warriors trailed 36-35 at halftime.

Other scorers included Kelcia Bufkin with 19, Kurlysha Bell with 11, Ja'Monica Orton with 10, and Ashlee Hardy of Newton with six.

Raven Hubbard tallied 18 points to lead Hinds, which fell to 2-12 and 0-5.

EC men 91
Hinds 86

The Warriors cracked the win column for the first time this season following the double overtime victory at Utica on January 23.

Glenn Thomas poured in 14 points to lead the Warriors as they improved to 1-12 overall and 1-3 in league play.

Jimmie Broomfield scored 13 points, LaVadius Lyles and Newton's Cordarion Nichols both had 12, Bobby Wrench added 11, Hakeem Wesley of Newton County had 10, and Keivondre Watford scored eight.

Trevis Thomas scored 25 points to lead Hinds, which fell to 4-10 and 3-2.

Co-Lin 61
EC women 58

EC jumped out to an early 24-14 lead, but the Lady Wolves rallied and took advantage of EC miscues to claim a 61-58 win Thursday at Wesson.

The Lady Warriors led 26-25 at halftime and enjoyed their final lead at 56-55 with 2:16 left.

Ja'Monica Orton led EC, 2-12 and 2-3, with 16 points and nine rebounds. Kelcia Bufkin had 11 points, Jaiannah Matthew had 10, and Inessa Adams added nine.

Keosha Bradley had 15 points for Co-Lin, 12-3 and 5-0.

Co-Lin 90
EC men 59

EC fell to 1-13 overall and 1-4 in division play with Thursday's blowout loss at Wesson.

Hakeem Wesley of Newton County scored 17, Jontrae Conley had 11, and LaVadius Lyles had eight for EC.

Jay Case and Mike Buffalo had 16 points each to lead Co-Lin, 6-9 and 1-4.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF January 29, 2012

EC Lady Warriors defeat PR, Warriors drop decision

Winning ways have returned to the East Central Community College women's basketball team, who after a dismal start now find themselves in contention for post-season play.

The Lady Warriors cruised past Pearl River Community College 75-64 Monday night in Decatur to improve to 3-3 in the MACJC South Division.

After starting 0-11, Billy Smith has rallied his troops to win three of the last four division matchups, and the Lady Warriors' only loss during that period was a three-point setback (61-58) to undefeated Copiah-Lincoln last week.

Freshmen Xzandra Dowd and Jakela Johnson poured in 12 points each in leading EC to the key division victory. Dowd is a product of Neville High School in Monroe, La., and Johnson hails from West Jones High School.

Ja'Monica Orton had another productive night as the sophomore guard pumped in 11 points and grabbed a team-leading 11 rebounds. Orton is a former standout at Walter E. Stebbins High School in Dayton, Ohio.

Also scoring for EC were Kurlysha Bell of Kosciusko, nine; Kelcia Bufkin of Scott Central and Inessa Adams of Horn Lake, eight each; Jaianah Matthew of Arkansas High School in Texarkana, Ark., seven; Renisha Evans of Newton County, five; and Ashlee Hardy of Newton, three.

Shanta Echols tallied 12 points for the Lady Wildcats, who dropped to 10-5 and 4-2. The squad is coached by former ECCC assistant Toby Bush.

The Lady Warriors held a 42-34 advantage at halftime.

Their largest lead was 37-19 during first-half action.

In the men's game, East Central started strong and built a 23-7 lead but the Wildcats closed the scoring gap to 32-28 at halftime and eventually pulled away late for a 70-56 victory.

Sophomore guard Jontrae Conley pumped in 17 points to lead the Warriors, who fell to 1-14 and 1-5 under sixth-year head coach Maurice Bowie. Conley is a product of Meridian High School.

Also scoring were Hakeem Wesley of Newton County, 13; LaVadius Lyles of Forest, nine; Thomas Straugter of Jackson Callaway, five; Bobby Wrench of Columbus, three; TJ Leatherwood of Northridge (Ala.) High School, Akeem Toppin of Columbus, Steven Fuller of Kemper County and Glenn Thomas of Loyd Star, two each; and Keivondre Watford of Tuscaloosa Central, one.

Yondarius Johnson scored 17 points to lead the Wildcats, who improved to 8-8 and 4-2.

ECCC squads continue division play Thursday by taking on Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College. Game times are 6 and 8 p.m. on the Perkinston campus.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors host Jones County Monday, Feb. 6. Women's action starts at 6 p.m. followed by the men's contest at 8 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

ECCC women win fifth in six attempts

Free throws by Jainannah Matthew and Kelcia Bufkin in the game's final moments provided East Central Community College's Lady Warriors with the winning margin in a 76-72 decision over Jones County Monday night in Decatur.

With the win, EC's women improved to 5-3 in the MACJC South Division and 5-12 overall under seventh year head coach Bill Smith.

The Lady Bobcats are also 5-3 in league play and 11-7 overall.

Matthew and Bufkin were among five Lady Warriors who scored in double figures to claim the key division victory.

Xzandra Dowd, a 5-8 freshman guard from Neville High School in Monroe, La., led EC with 18 points. Matthew, a 5-8 freshman guard from Arkansas High School in Texarkana, Ark., had 17 points followed by Ja'-Monica Orton with 12, Bufkin, 11; and Kurlysha Bell with 10.

Orton is a 6' sophomore guard from Walter E. Stebbins High School in Dayton, Ohio, and Bufkin is a 5-3 freshman guard from Scott Central. Bell, a 5-10 sophomore center, hails from Kosciusko.

Jakela Johnson, a 6' freshman center from West Jones, contributed eight points.

The Lady Warriors, who have won five of their last six contests, connected on 28 of 58 (48.3 percent) field goals, four of 10 three-point (40 percent) shots and 16 of 19 (84.2 percent) free throws.

Alecia Autman led Jones with 19 points.

EC held a 36-34 advantage at halftime.

Warriors fall by 30

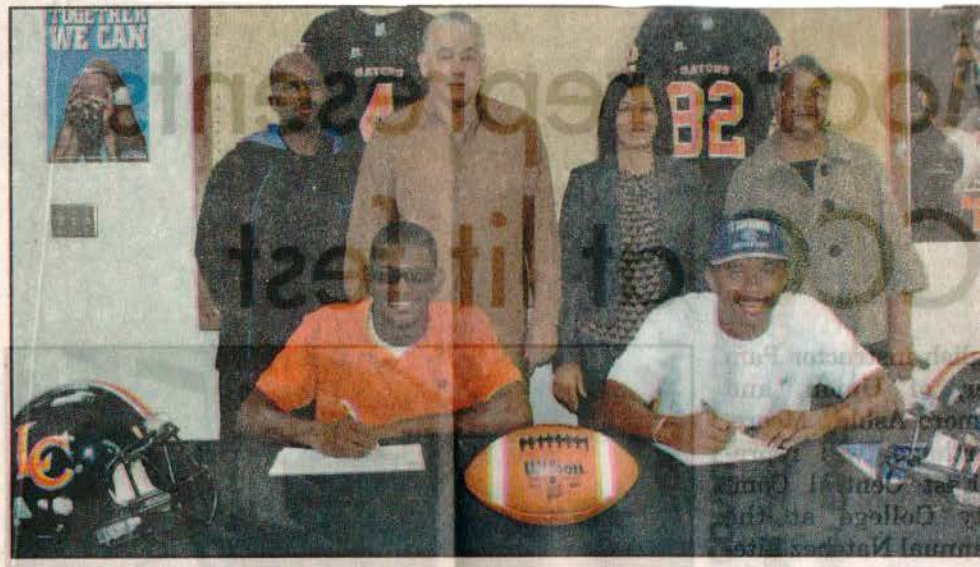
The Warriors were not as fortunate as they were unable to overcome a 37-32 halftime deficit and fell 92-62 to the visiting Bobcats.

Hakeem Wesley, a 5-11 freshman guard from Newton County High School, poured in 15 points to lead the Warriors, who dropped to 1-16 overall and 1-7 in league play under sixth-year head coach Maurice Bowie.

Other scorers were LaVadius Lyles of Forest, 13; Jontrae Conley of Meridian and Bobby Wrench of Columbus, six each; Keivondre Watford of Tuscaloosa Central, five; Akeem Toppin of Columbus and Glenn Thomas of Loyd Star, four each; Steven Fuller of Kemper County, three; and Thomas Straughter of Jackson Callaway, Jackson Therrien of Newton County Academy and Cordarion Nichols of Newton, two each.

Courtney Mack pumped in 22 points for the Bobcats, who improved to 9-10 and 3-5.

ECCC squads host Northwest Thursday, Feb. 9. Game times are 6 and 8 p.m. in Brackeen-Wood.



Central Gators accept football offers

Two Leake Central football players signed national letters of intent on signing day, Wednesday, Feb. 1. Cashmere Dawson, seated left, inked his name on a scholarship offer from East Central Community College and Jabari Payton, seated right, agreed t the Jackson State Tigers. Jo the duo on signing day were, s ing, from left, Dawson's dad An Payton's grandfather Ge Williams, Payton's mother Mi and Payton's grandmother Bet

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL

SPIRIT OF MORTON

MERIDIAN STAR

WEEK OF February 5, 2012

AREA ROUNDUP

East Central women edge out Jones County

from staff reports

The Warriors put five players in double figures and knocked down four-straight from the charity stripe in the final minute to defeat the Bobcats 76-72 on Monday night.

Xzandra Dowd had a team-high 18 points in the win, while Jaiannah Matthew added 17. Ja'Monica Orton had 12 points, Kelsey Bufkin scored 11 and Kurlysha Bell chipped in with 10 on the night.

Alician Almond had a game-high 19 points for Jones.

East Central improves to 5-12, 5-3 in the MACJC South division, while Jones falls to 11-7, 5-3.

The Warriors will host Northeast Community College on Thursday night.

— Daniel Rigdon

JCJC men	**92**
ECCC	**62**

The Bobcats jumped all over the Warriors on Monday night handing East Central its 16th loss of the season.

Former Newton County standout Hakeem Wesley led ECCC with 15 points, while Lavadious Lyles added 13 in the loss.

Courtney Mack had 22 points for Jones.

East Central (1-16, 1-7 in MACJC South Division) will host Northeast Community College on Thursday night a 8 p.m.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF February 5, 2012

Lady Warriors continue to roll

from combined reports

After losing their first 11 games, the East Central Community College Lady Warriors have won four of their last five games to improve to 4-12 overall and 4-3 in the MACJC South Division.

The Lady Warriors defeated Pearl River (75-64) and Gulf Coast (66-65) last week.

Meanwhile, the Warriors continue to struggle as losses to Pearl River (70-56) and Gulf Coast (66-52) dropped them to 1-15 and 1-6.

This week, EC hosted Jones on Monday and Northwest Mississippi comes to Decatur on Thursday.

EC women 75
Pearl River 64

The Lady Warriors jumped out to a 37-19 lead and were up 42-34 by halftime of the January 30 win at Decatur.

EC improved to 3-3 in the South Division and 3-12 overall.

EC got 12 points each from Xzandra Dowd and Jakela Johnson, 11 from Ja'Monica Orton, nine from Kurlysha Bell, eight each from Kelcia Bufkin and Inessa Adams, and seven from Jaianah Matthew. Orton also had 11 rebounds.

Shanta Echols had 12 points to lead Pearl River, 10-5 and 4-2.

Pearl River 70
EC men 56

Despite jumping out to a 23-7 lead, the Warriors fell to 1-14 and 1-5 with the January 30 league loss at Decatur.

Pearl River closed to within 32-28 at halftime, then outscored EC 42-24 in the second half.

Jontrae Conley pumped in 17 points to lead the Warriors. Hakeem Wesley of Newton County scored 13 and LaVadius Lyles had nine.

Yondarius Johnson scored 17 points to lead Pearl River, 8-8 and 4-2.

EC women 66
Gulf Coast 65

Four Lady Warriors scored in double figures and led EC to Thursday night's win in Perkinston.

Jaiannah Matthew, Xzandra Dowd, and Kelcia Bufkin each had 12 points and Ja'Monica Orton added 10 as the EC women captured their fourth win in five contests to improve to 4-12 overall and 4-3 in the division.

The Lady Warriors are now in fourth place in the division with the top four teams advancing to the state tournament.

Orton led EC in rebounds with 10. Dowd had nine. Kurlysha Bell had eight points.

EC led 30-29 at halftime.

Ricille Davis led Gulf Coast with 17 points while Tatyana Haywood and Yasmine Nelson both had 11.

Gulf Coast 66
EC men 52

Newton County's Hakeem Wesley poured in 13 points to lead the Warriors, who fell to 1-15 and 1-6 with Thursday's loss at Perkinston.

EC also got 11 points each from LaVadius Lyles and Akeen Toppin, and seven from Jackson Therrien of Newton County Academy.

The Bulldogs (16-2, 7-0) got 16 points from Angel Matias and 13 from Ice Asortse.

Kentucky Bound

East Central Community College defensive standout Kory Brown (seated left) is shown signing a national letter of intent with the University of Kentucky as Warrior head football coach Brian Anderson looks on. Brown, is a 6-foot-1, 215-pound defensive back who redshirted the 2011 season at ECCC.

ECCC photo

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WEEK OF February 19, 2012

EC women clinch state tourney berth

from combined reports

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors used wins over Southwest Mississippi and Hinds last week to wrap up a berth in the upcoming MACJC State Tournament.

The Lady Warriors improved to 8-12 after losing their first 11 games.

The Warriors went 1-1 last week and brought a 2-18 mark into this week.

Regular season competition ends Thursday at Pearl River Community College.

EC women 71
Southwest 66

The Lady Warriors moved to within a win of clinching a berth in the MACJC State Tournament with the five-point win at Decatur on February 13.

EC improved to 7-12 overall, but more importantly 6-3 in the South Division.

Kelcia Bufkin was EC's top scorer with 31 points. She was 7-of-12 from beyond the 3-point arc.

Ja'Monica Orton added 12 points, Ashlee Hardy of Newton scored nine, and Jaiannah Matthew and Kurlysha Bell both had six.

Shaniece Sheffield and Shanekqua Bibbs pumped in 23 and 22 points, respectively, to lead Southwest, 3-17 and 0-9.

The score was tied at 32 at halftime.

Southwest 96
EC men 76

The Warriors' long season continued with the 20-point loss at Decatur on February 13.

Southwest led 50-35 at halftime.

Jimmie Broomfield tallied 14 points to lead the Warriors, who fell to 1-18 and 1-8.

EC women 100
Hinds 80

Four Lady Warriors scored in double figures to lead EC to an easy 20-point win Thursday in Decatur.

With the win, EC qualified for the MACJC State Tournament, scheduled Feb. 27- March 1.

The top women's squad in the North Division is the designated host for the 2012 event. The Itawamba Community College women are the top seed in the North with a perfect 10-0 mark. The Lady Indians are 19-2 overall.

The Lady Warriors, after starting the season at 0-11, are now 8-12 overall and 7-3 in league play under seventh-year head coach Bill Smith.

Co-Lin leads the South at 10-0. EC and Pearl River are tied at 7-3 followed by Jones County (6-4), Gulf Coast (5-6), Hinds (1-11) and Southwest (0-10).

Ja'Monica Orton was the top scorer in EC's blowout with 27 points. She also led in rebounds with 11.

Also scoring in double figures were Jaiannah Matthew with 22, Xzandra Dowd with 21, and Kelcia Bufkin with 10. Reneisha Evans of Newton County scored seven, and Jakela Johnson had six.

Kenya Wright tallied 18 points to lead Hinds, 3-18 and 2-9.

EC held a commanding 49-20 advantage at the break.

EC men 86
Hinds 83

The Warriors came away with a double-overtime win as Jimmie Broomfield pumped in 18 points to lead EC, 2-18 and 2-8.

Also scoring were LaVadius Lyles with 11, Hakeem Wesley of Newton County with eight, and Thomas Straughter and Newton's Cordarion Nichols with seven each.

Mark Bridgewater and Cory Lacy had 19 points each to lead Southwest, 9-11 and 4-5.

Also scoring were Hakeem Wesley of Newton County with 17, Thomas Straughter with 11, Steven Fuller and Akeem Toppin with nine each, and Keivondre Watford with seven.

EC trailed 39-36 at halftime. The score was deadlocked at 66-66 at the end of regulation.

ECCC's men's soccer tryouts set for Feb. 24

Tryouts for the 2012 East Central Community College men's soccer team will be held Friday, Feb. 24, on the Decatur campus, announced ECCC soccer coach Kenneth Thompson.

Activities begin with a 2 p.m. registration scheduled at the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

Thompson said prospective team members will need to provide their own equipment to participate in tryouts.

For more information, contact coach Kenneth Thompson at 601-635-6370 or e-mail kthompson@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF February 19, 2012

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Posted: 12:09 AM Feb 25, 2012

ECCC Lady Warriors, Itawamba Meet in State Tourney Action

ECCC's Lady Warriors begin first-round MACJC State Basketball Tournament action by taking on top North seed and tournament host Itawamba Community College.

Reporter: East Central Community College

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East Central Community College's Lady Warriors begin first-round MACJC State Basketball Tournament action by taking on top North seed and tournament host Itawamba Community College at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 28 at the Davis Event Center on the Fulton campus.

The East Central women, who quailed for the single elimination event as the South's No. 4 seed with a 7-5 division mark, hope the third time will be the charm in defeating the highly regarded Lady Indians who received votes in the latest NJCAA poll.

Itawamba, which finished the regular season at 21-2 overall and 12-0 in league play, swept the season series with EC by scores of 99-63 and 76-66.

The Lady Warriors got off to rough start at 0-11 under seventh-year head coach Bill Smith, but the squad rallied to win eight of the following nine contests before completing the regular season with narrow defeats to South top-seed Copiah-Lincoln and No. 2 Pearl River.

Other matchups in first-round women's action Tuesday include Co-Lin and Northeast at 1 p.m., followed by Holmes and Jones County at 3 p.m. and Pearl River and Coahoma at 8 p.m.

Semi-finals are scheduled at 1 and 6 p.m. Wednesday.

The championship game is set for 6 p.m. Thursday.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

other ✓

WEEK OF February 19, 2012

ECCC falls in home finale

East Central Community College's basketball squads dropped a pair of four-point decisions to Copiah-Lincoln Community College Monday night in Decatur.

The Lady Warriors were clipped 77-73 by the division-leading Lady Wolves and the Warriors fell 61-57 to the Co-Lin men at the season's home finale recognized as "Sophomore Appreciation Night."

Ja'Monica Orton poured in 21 points and grabbed nine rebounds to lead the playoff-bound EC women, who dropped to 8-13 overall and 7-4 in the MACJC South Division.

Also scoring were Xzandra Dowd of Neville High School in Monroe, and Kelcia Bufkin of Scott Central, 13 each; Kurlysha Bell of Kosciusko, 12; Jaiannah Matthew of Arkansas High School in Texarkana, Ark., seven; Ashlee Hardy of Newton, three; and Inessa Adams of Horn Lake and Jakela Johnson of West Jones, two each.

EC trailed 39-26 at the break.

The Co-Lin women enter the MACJC State Tournament as the South's top seed. The Lady Warriors are currently tied for second in league play with Pearl River and Jones County.

EC can take sole possession of second place with a win over the Lady Wildcats Thursday night in Poplarville. State tournament competition is scheduled Feb. 27–March 1 at Itawamba Community College in Fulton.

In the men's battle, the Warriors held a 23-18 halftime advantage but the visiting Wolves outscored EC by a 43-34 margin in the second half to claim the victory.

Newton County High School product Hakeem Wesley of Hickory poured in 15 points to lead the Warriors, who dropped to 2-19 and 2-9.

Also scoring were Thomas Straughter of Jackson Callaway, 11; Jontrae Conley of Meridian, 10; Jimmie Broomfield of Scott Central, nine; Keivondre Watford of Tuscaloosa Central, five; LaVadius Lyles of Forest, three; and TJ Leatherwood of Northridge (Ala.) High School and Akeem Toppin of Columbus, two each.

EC's men battle the Pearl River Wildcats Thursday in the season finale on the Poplarville campus. Game time is 7 p.m. The Lady Warrior/Lady Wildcat matchup is set for 5 p.m.

Brackets for the MACJC State Tournament will be released Friday, Feb. 24.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF February 19, 2012

Playoff-bound East Central CC Lady Warriors, Warriors drop home finale

East Central Community College's basketball squads dropped a pair of four-point decisions to Copiah-Lincoln Community College Monday night at the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building in Decatur.

The Lady Warriors were clipped 77-73 by the division-leading Lady Wolves and the Warriors fell 61-57 to the Co-Lin men at the season's home finale recognized as "Sophomore Appreciation Night."

Ja'Monica Orton poured in 21 points and grabbed nine rebounds to lead the playoff-bound EC women, who dropped to 8-13 overall and 7-4 in the MACJC South Division. Orton, a 6' sophomore guard, is a product of Walter E. Stebbins High School in Dayton, Ohio.

Also scoring were Xzandra Dowd of Neville High School in Monroe, and Kelcia Bufkin of Scott Central, 13 each; Kurlysha Bell of Kosciusko, 12; Jaiannah Matthew of Arkansas High School in Texarkana, Ark., seven; Ashlee Hardy of Newton, three; and Inessa Adams of Horn Lake and Jakela Johnson of West Jones, two each.

Bell and Adams are also sophomores and were recognized by head coach Bill Smith and assistant Britta Stephens during a special ceremony held between games.

The Co-Lin women enter the MACJC State Tournament as the South's top seed. The Lady Warriors are currently tied for second in league play with Pearl River and Jones County. EC can take sole possession of second place with a win over the Lady Wildcats Thursday night in Poplarville. State tournament competition is scheduled Feb. 27 – March 1 at Itawamba Community College in Fulton.

In the men's battle, the Warriors held a 23-18 halftime advantage but the visiting Wolves outscored EC by a 43-34 margin in the second half to claim the four-point victory.

Newton County High School product Hakeem Wesley of Hickory poured in 15 points to lead the Warriors, who dropped

See **WARRIOR**, page 10A

APPEARED IN:

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ECCC loses at MACJC State Tournament

East Central Community College's women's basketball season came to an end Tuesday at the hands of the Itawamba Community College Indians.

The top-seeded and host Indians beat the Warriors 73-55 in the opening round of the MACJC State Tournament.

Ja'Monica Orton and Kurlysha Bell each scored 11 points to lead the Warriors while Xzandra Dowd added 10.

ECCC ends the year with a record of 8-15.

– David Landrum

PREP BASKETBALL

Bus lined up for McDonald's All-American game

A chartered bus, with room for 56 passengers, has been lined up for a trip to Chicago for next month's McDonald's High School All-American game featuring Kemper County star forward Devonta Pollard.

The bus leaves Kemper County at 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 27, and returns Thursday, March 29, at midnight.

There is a $185 per person fee that covers the bus, hotel room (four per room) and ticket to the game Wednesday, March 28. The money is due Thursday, March 1.

For more information, please contact Sandra Jones at 601-575-5419 after 3 p.m.

– Jamie Wachter

LATE PREP BASKETBALL

Leake girls win seventh straight state title

Behind 18 points and eight rebounds from Hannah Peoples, the Rebelettes captured their seventh consecutive MAIS Class AA state championship Saturday night, when they edged Bowling Green 52-44.

Peoples also had eight rebounds and four steals, while Mary Grace Key added 12 points and seven rebounds.

Leake pushed a 19-14 lead after the first quarter to 29-17 at halftime, and the Rebelettes (38-2) held off Bowling Green from there.

Regan Moody led Bowling Green with 12 points.

That championship game win followed a 62-46 win against Simpson Academy in the semi-final round Friday.

Leading just 20-19 at halftime, the Rebelettes outscored the Cougars 21-13 in the third quarter to gain breathing room.

Chloe Thaggard led Leake with 20 points and 13 rebounds, while Key added 16 points, Peoples had 15 points and eight rebounds, and Anna Nowell chipped in with 11 points.

Auguste Knight paced Simpson with 11.

The Rebelettes now head to the MAIS Overall Tournament at Mississippi College's A.E. Wood Coliseum this week.

Leake downed Hebron Christian on Tuesday in the first round, sending the Rebelettes into Friday's semi-final round.

— Jamie Wachter

Prep Baseball

Meridian Home School 14
Imanuel Christian 8

Jacob Hertel went 2-3 with two singles and three RBIs as the Flyers beat Imanuel Christian in ColumbusTuesday.

Tucker Perry went 2-4 with a double and a single and collected two RBIs. Jacob Lee also went 2-3 in the contest. He had two singles and also drove in two RBIs.

The Flyers (3-1) got balanced scoring early in the game. Meridian Home School pushed across two runs in the first inning, one run in the second inning and, then, exploded for five runs in the third inning.

The Flyers scored three runs in the fifth and seventh innings to secure the win.

Ben Powell got the win. He improves to 2-0 on the young season. Powell pitched six innings giving up seven runs, four of them earned. He gave up five hits and walked seven batters, however, he struck out seven in the contest.

Meridian Home School returns to action Friday when they take on Grace Christian School at Q. V. Sykes Park.

– David Landrum

Kosciusko 3
Newton County 1

The Diamond Cougars traveled to Attala County to take on the Whippets in baseball action Tuesday. However, Kosciusko proved to be rude hosts as they came away with the win over Newton County.

Reagan Warren and Cale Hollingsworth each went 2-3 with two singles to lead the Cougars at the plate. Warren had the game's only RBI for Newton County.

Will Brand took the loss for NCHS. He pitched 6 innings-giving up three earned runs on five hits. Brand walked two while striking out four.

The Cougars drop to 2-1 on the season. They will be back in action Saturday when they take on Meridian and Clarkdale.

– David Landrum

Junior College Baseball

MCC/ ECCC baseball rescheduled for today

The Meridian Community baseball team has announced that its scheduled 2 p.m. doubleheader today against East Central Community College has been postponed due to weather conditions. The games have been rescheduled for this afternoon at 2 p.m. in Decatur.

The Eagles are currently 9-7 overall for the season and will look to extend its current five-game winning streak against the Warriors.

East Central is currently 4-6 and have lost five of its last six games when it is scheduled to play the Eagles on Wednesday afternoon.

The Eagles are still scheduled to play a three-game series this weekend at Scaggs Field against Northwest Florida.

The opening game of the series is scheduled for Friday at 5 p.m. and the final two games are slated for a 12 p.m. start on Saturday afternoon.

–From School Reports

Junior College Softball

East Central softball splits decisions at Holmes

After falling 2-0 in the opener, East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball team responded with a 16-0 blowout in the nightcap to split a doubleheader with Holmes Community College Tuesday in Goodman.

The Lady Diamond Warriors, now 12-5 under head coach Scott Hill and assistant Kristin Chaney, out-hit the home standing Lady Bulldogs by a 6-5 margin in the first contest but could not muster a run.

Holmes scored its runs in the second and third innings to claim the non-division victory.

Hitters in the opener were Kelsi Watson of Smithville, Haylee Roberts of Enterprise, Brittany Pounders of Southeast Lauderdale, Lajoya Griffin of Philadelphia and Neshoba Central products Marlee Massey and A.J. Peeler, singles each.

Tenna Patterson took the loss on the mound. Patterson allowed just one earned run on five hits through six innings. She also fanned nine batters.

EC's offense came alive in the second contest, as the Lady Diamond Warriors collected 11 hits in cruising to the easy victory, which was called after five innings.

A two-run homer by Roberts in the first inning began the scoring onslaught for EC, which added a run in the second inning and put the contest out of reach with six runs in the third inning and seven in the fifth.

Roberts, who also singled, led EC with four RBIs.

Griffin led the team in hits with two doubles and a single. She also knocked in three runs.

Peeler contributed a double and a single and recorded two RBIs.

Other hitters were Pounders, Dakota Vowell of Neshoba Central and Haelie Allen of Leake Academy, doubles each; and Watson, single. Allen also had three RBIs. Pounders, Vowell and Watson each knocked in a run.

Kaetlen Brown of Deatsville, Ala., hurled a three-hitter in registering the shutout victory. Brown fanned two batters and walked one. She is a product of Edgewood (Ala.) Academy.

The Lady Diamond Warriors travel to Baton Rouge Community College Wednesday. The doubleheader action begins at 3 p.m.

East Central will be guests of Hinds Community College Saturday, March 3.

Game times are 1 and 3 p.m. on the Raymond campus.

EC women drop two heading to state tournament

OF February 26, 2012

from combined reports

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors didn't exactly close out the regular season the way they wanted to last week.

The Lady Warriors fell to MACJC South Division champion Copiah-Lincoln (77-73) and Pearl River (80-68) to take an 8-14 overall record into the MACJC State Tournament this week at Itawamba Community College in Fulton.

EC opened the state tournament against the host Lady Indians Tuesday night.

The EC men wrapped up a 3-19 campaign with a 61-57 loss to Co-Lin (61-57) and a 73-68 win over Pearl River.

Co-Lin	**77**
EC women	**73**

The Lady Warriors fell behind 39-26 in the first half as they dropped their home finale on February 19 in Decatur.

Ja'Monica Orton poured in 21 points and grabbed nine rebounds to lead the EC women, who dropped to 8-13 overall and 7-4 in the MACJC South Division.

Xzandra Dowd and Kelcia Bufkin both scored 13 points, Kurlysha Bell had 12, and Jaiannah Matthew added seven.

Keosha Bradley pumped in 31 points for Co-Lin (19-3 and 11-0).

Co-Lin	**61**
EC men	**57**

The Warriors held a 23-18 halftime advantage, but the visiting Wolves outscored EC by a 43-34 margin in the second half to claim the four-point victory on February 19 at Decatur.

Newton County High School product Hakeem

points to lead the Warriors, who dropped to 2-19 and 2-9. Thomas Straughter scored 11 points, Jontrae Conley had 10, and Jimmie Broomfield nine.

Jay Case led Co-Lin (9-13, 4-7) with 22 points.

Pearl River	**80**
EC women	**68**

The Lady Warriors were outscored 12-0 in overtime in losing Thursday's game at Poplarville.

EC trailed 30-29 at halftime before forcing overtime with a 68-68 tie at the end of regulation.

The loss dropped EC to fourth in the MACJC South Division.

Xzandra Dowd pumped in 23 points to lead EC as the Lady Warriors completed regular season action at 8-14 overall and 7-5 in league play.

EC also got 16 points from Kelcia Bufkin, 13 from Ja'Monica Orton, and six from Kurlysha Bell.

Shana Echols had 19 points to lead Pearl River (15-7 and 8-4).

EC men	**73**
Pearl River	**68**

Jimmie Broomfield tallied 21 points and Akeem Toppin added 15 to lead the Warriors to a stunning victory over playoff-bound Pearl River Thursday night in Poplarville.

Also scoring for the Warriors, who completed season action at 3-19 overall and 3-9 in the division, were Thomas Straughter with 12 and Keivondre Watford with eight.

Yondarius Johnson poured in 23 points to lead Pearl River (12-10 and 8-4). PRC enters the state tournament as the South's No. 2 seed.

EC held a 39-31 advan-

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WEEK OF March 18, 2012

MACJC all-star games set for Tuesday at East Central

This year's MACJC All-Star basketball games are set for Tuesday at East Central Community College in Decatur. Women's action begins at 5 p.m. and will be followed by the men's contest at 7 p.m. Admission is $5.

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WEEK OF March 25, 2012

EC places two in all-star hoops game

from school reports

The state's top sophomore JUCO basketball players had the opportunity to showcase their talents in the annual MACJC All-Star Basketball Games hosted by East Central Community College Tuesday night.

Named to the South Division All-Star women's squad were Ja'Monica Orton of East Central, Lauren Douglas, Alecia Autman, and Terrenisha Hollis, all of Jones County; Kenya Wright of Hinds; Ricille Davis and Delainna Lyons, both of Gulf Coast; Shaniece Sheffield of Southwest; Toy Johnson and Branita Malone, both of Pearl River; and Jasmine James and Keosha Bradley, both of Copiah-Lincoln.

Melanie Stone of Gulf Coast was the South women's coach.

North Division women All-Stars were Kierra Gilmore, Dierra Gilmore, and Louise Collins, all of Holmes; Anna Brooke Page of Northeast; Chadisty Hickman of East Mississippi; Dayana McGee and Ciara Morgan, both of Coahoma; Jameika Hoskins, Vechatita Bonner, and LaPrecious Naylon, all of Itawamba; Calmetta Greyer of Delta; and Erica Turner of Northwest.

Nanci Gray of Itawamba was the North women's coach.

Selected to the South Division men's team were Jimmie Broomfield of East Central; Guy Payne, Ice Asortse, and Justin Childs, all of Gulf Coast; Cory Lacy and Michael Hall, both of Southwest; Kelvin Nixon of Jones County; Yondarious Johnson, Daron Bell, and Zane Knowles, all of Pearl River; Jake Reed of Copiah-Lincoln; and Trevis Thomas of Hinds.

Wendell Weathers of Gulf Coast was the South men's coach.

North Division men all-stars were Everick Morris and Darius Woods, both of Northwest; Deangelo Priar and Emmanuel Dias, both of Holmes; Rashard Harris and Cortavious Vaughn, both of Coahoma; Jermaine Hollimon and Cedric Janes, both of Northeast; Deon Bedford of East Mississippi; Marius Myles of Itawamba; and LaQuavius Cotton and Kwahmere Gredric, both of Delta.

ECCC assistant Matt Riley served as head coach of the North men.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF March 25, 2012

MACJC All-Star Basketball Games Scheduled for today at ECCC

From combined school reports

The state's top sophomore JUCO basketball players will have an opportunity to showcase their talents when the annual MACJC All-Star Basketball Games are held Tuesday, March 27, 2012, at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Women's action begins at 5 p.m. and will be followed by the men's contest at 7 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

Named to the South Division All-Star women's squad are Ja'Monica Orton, East Central; Lauren Douglas, Alecia Autman and Terrenisha Hollis, all of Jones County; Kenya Wright, Hinds; Ricille Davis and Delainna Lyons, both of Gulf Coast; Shaniece Sheffield, Southwest; Toy Johnson and Branita Malone, both of Pearl River; and Jasmine James and Keosha Bradley, both of Copiah-Lincoln. Melanie Stone of Gulf Coast will serve as head coach.

North Division women All-Stars are Kierra Gilmore, Dierra Gilmore and Louise Collins, all of Holmes; Anna Brooke Page, Northeast; Chadisty Hickman, East MS; Dayana McGee and Ciara Morgan, both of Coahoma; Jameilka Hoskins, Vechatita Bonner and LaPrecious Naylon, all of Itawamba; Calmetta Greyer, Delta; and Erica Turner, Northwest. Nancy Gray of Itawamba will serve as head coach.

Hickman led head coach Sharon Thompson's EMCC Lady Lions in scoring, assists and steals for the second straight season, averaging 14.0 points, 3.7 assists and 1.6 steals per game to repeat as an MACJC All-North Division First Team recipient.

The former Kemper County High School product also ranked third on this year's EMCC team with an average of 4.4 rebounds an outing in addition to making a team-high 28 three-point field goals.

As a freshman during the 2010-11 season, Hickman topped the EMCC women in scoring (14.7 ppg), assists (3.9 apg) and steals (1.6 spg) to garner NJCAA All-Region 23 honors and make the MACJC All-North Division First Team.

She also averaged 3.8 rebounds and ranked second on the team with 33 made 3-pointers as a collegiate rookie.

Selected on the South Division men's All-Star team are Jimmie Broomfield, East Central; Guy Payne, Ice Asortse and Justin Childs, all of Gulf

See ALL STARS on page B2

ALL STARS from page B1

Coast; Cory Lacy and Michael Hall, both of Southwest; Kelvin Nixon, Jones County; Yondarious Johnson, Daron Bell and Zane Knowles, all of Pearl River; Jake Reed, Copiah-Lincoln; and Trevis Thomas, Hinds. Wendell Weathers of Gulf Coast will serve as head coach.

North Division men All-Stars are Everick Morris and Darius Woods, both of Northwest; Deangelo Priar and Emmanuel Dias, both of Holmes; Rashard Harris and Cortavious Vaughn, both of Coahoma; Jermaine Hollimon and Cedric Janes, both of Northeast; Deon Bedford, East MS; Marius Myles, Itawamba; and LaQuavius Cotton and Kwahmere Gredric, both of Delta. ECCC assistant Matt Riley will serve as head coach.

Bedford averaged 8.0 points and 5.3 rebounds per game, while shooting an improved 46 percent from the field and 76 percent from the line, primarily in a sixth-man role for head coach Mark White's 23-6 EMCC Lions this past season.

An integral part of EMCC's three-time NJCAA Region 23 and MACJC North Division championship clubs, Bedford was named to this year's NJCAA Region 23 All-Tournament Team after scoring 16 points on 7-of-9 shooting and grabbing eight rebounds, including five offensive boards, in EMCC's 63-49 championship-game victory over Southern University at Shreveport (La.).

Bedford, a product of West Oktibbeha County High School, averaged 5.8 points and 3.8 rebounds per contest as a freshman for the 25-5 EMCC Lions. He also ranked third on the 2010-11 squad with 25 made 3-pointers.

Admission is $5 per person for the NJCAA-sanctioned event. Both games will be streamed on Holmes Community College Web site, www.holmesathletics.ihigh.com.

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WEEK OF April 15, 2012

REMAINING TEAMMATES

ECCC photo

Lawrence County High School basketball standouts Taylor Brister (seated left) and Mary Margaret McLaurin (seated center) are shown signing the "dotted line" to continue their careers at East Central Community College Decatur. Brister, a 5-foot-4 point guard, received MVP honors in Division 7-4A and was named to the All-District 7-4A team. McLaurin, a 5-7 shooting guard, also received All-District and All-Division honors and was selected Best Offensive Player. The talented student-athletes are also recipients of Co-Area Players of the Year recognition. They helped lead Lawrence County to the 2011 South State Championship and runner-up honors in the 2011 State 4A Tournament. The 2012 squad captured the regular season district championship. Pictured with the new Warriors are ECCC women's head basketball coach Bill Smith (seated right), and (standing from left) Lawrence County girls' basketball coach Vicki Rutland; Brister's mother, Yolande Brister of Monticello; and McLaurin's parents, Channon and Tim McLaurin of Jayess.

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WEEK OF April 22, 2012

Ja'Monica Orton (seated center), a basketball standout the past two seasons at East Central Community College in Decatur, is continuing her career on the university level. Orton, a 6-foot guard, is shown signing a national letter of intent with Wright State University, located in her hometown of Dayton, Ohio, as Lady Warrior head coach Bill Smith (left) and assistant Britta Stephens look on. Orton was an All-Region 23 and first team MACJC All-State selection for two seasons and was named to the 2012 MACJC All-Star Team. She averaged 17.4 points, 9.6 rebounds and 1.9 assists per game and helped lead the Lady Warriors to the first round of the 2012 MACJC State Basketball Tournament. Her parents are Les and Carla Orton of Dayton. (ECCC photo)

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WEEK OF May 20, 2012

SUBMITTED BY FOREST HIGH SCHOOL/AMANDA GUY

BOGAN SIGNS WITH ECCC

Forest High School senior basketball player Jeremy Bogan, seated center, signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball for the East Central Community College Warriors. Joining him in the singing ceremony were his parents, Leola Bogan and Rodney Reed. Standing: Forest High School Coach Perry Fletcher and ECCC Head Basketball Coach Maurice Bowie.

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WEEK OF May 20, 2012

THE TIMES/CHRIS ALLEN BAKER

CAMPBELL SIGNS WITH ECCC

Forest High School senior baskeball player Chelsea Campbell, seated center, signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball for the East Central Community College Lady Warriors. Joining her in the singing ceremony were her parents, Phylis Campbell and Terry Campbell. Standing: Forest High School girls basketball coach Eric Jones and East Central Community College women's basketball coach Billy Smith.

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WEEK OF June 10, 2012

Paula Merritt/The Meridian Star

Longtime East Central Community College women's basketball coach Bill Smith has retired to pursue other opportunities.

Smith retires after 11 years at East Central

from staff reports

After 11 seasons at East Central Community College, including stints as head coach of both the men's and women's basketball programs, Bill Smith has retired.

"I've enjoyed my 11 years here," he said in a school release. "I just felt like it was time to retire and pursue some other job opportunities.

"I really enjoyed my time here, both with the men's and women's teams. I'm looking forward to a new challenge and a new chapter in my life."

ERA ENDS

Smith leaving ECCC after 11 seasons

Page B1

Smith, who arrived in Decatur in 2001 after a successful 16-year run at Neshoba Central, guiding the girls basketball team to a state championship, first served as the men's coach. In four seasons, leading the Warriors, Smith went 42-66 and made the MACJC state tournament and NJCAA Region 23 tourney in 2002-03.

He then took over the reigns of the women's program and had more success.

His first five seasons with the ECCC women ended with

See SMITH on page B2 –

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SMITH from page B1

winning records, highlighted by a 22-8 campaign in 2007-08 that included the Region 23 championship and a berth in the NJCAA national tournament.

"I thought that was a great accomplishment for a special group of girls," he said.

However, the past two seasons were more of a struggle for the Warriors and Smith. ECCC fell to 8-15 both years, although this past season saw the Warriors bounce back from an 0-11 start to win eight of its next nine and advance to the state tournament as the No. 4 seed from the MACJC South Division. However, the magic ran out against tournament host Itawamba Community College in the first round, ending the Warriors' season and Smith's tenure.

ECCC is currently advertising for a new women's basketball coach, with athletic director Chris Harris accepting applications through June 29.

WEEK OF June 17, 2012

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC BASKETBALL AWARDS

These members of the 2011-12 East Central Community College men's basketball team received honors at the Spring Sports Awards Banquet held May 1 on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are Bobby Wrench, a product of Columbus High School, most improved; Keivondre Watford of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) Central, most valuable defensive player; and Hakeem Wesley of Newton County, most valuable offensive player. Standing from left are LaVadius Lyles of Forest, scholar athlete; T.J. Leatherwood of Northridge High School, Tuscaloosa, Ala., hustle award; and Jimmie Broomfield of Scott Central, Warrior Award. ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin Maurice Bowie of Morton and Warrior head coach presented awards.

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WEEK OF June 24, 2012

Choctaw names new girls hoops coach

By Jamie Wachter
jwachter@themeridianstar.com

Bill Smith didn't stay retired long.

After his retirement as the women's basketball coach at East Central Community College was approved last week, Smith was named the new girls basketball coach at Choctaw Central earlier this week. He will replace Willis Tullos, who was informed he wasn't going to be retained shortly after the Warriors were eliminated in a Class 3A state semifinal.

Smith

The longtime ECCC coach — both the men's and women's programs — is looking forward to returning to the prep sidelines.

"It was a good opportunity for me to change career paths a bit," he said. "They've had some great teams come through there and it's a good opportunity."

In four years at the helm of the ECCC men's basketball program, Smith went 42-66. He then switched to coaching the ECCC women in 2005, compiling a 101-79 record that included an NJCAA Region 23 championship in 2007-08.

Prior to heading to Decatur and ECCC, Smith spent 16 seasons at Neshoba Central, where he led the girls basketball team to an overall record of 388-151 along with six division championships and a state title.

"I get to go home and still be able to coach," Smith said about heading to Choctaw.

He will take over a top program when he gets there. The Warriors have advanced to the Class 3A state tournament at the Mississippi Coliseum each of the past three seasons, playing for the state championship in 2011. Tullos took Choctaw there in each of his two seasons back at the

See SMITH on page B2

SMITH from page B1

helm of the program he helped lead to three state championships. Jennie Vance led the Warriors there in 2010, her second season as head coach.

"They have a good nucleus coming back," Smith said. "And there is a young lady moving in from Florida that will help.

"They expect to win and to get back to the state tournament in Jackson. They expect you to win and if you don't, they will be looking for someone else pretty quickly."

To keep that winning going, Smith said Choctaw will still play its up-tempo, pressing style. However, he indicated there would be some alterations as well.

"We'll make a few changes," he said. "But we will still be run and gun and press a good bit."

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WEEK OF July 1, 2012

ECCC Lady Warrior Campers

These young athletes attended the annual junior high girls' basketball camp held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Participants and their respective schools include, first row, from left, Mariana Ocampo, Nikki Boutwell, Kamryn Gilbert and Lydia Zimmerman, all of West Lauderdale; Molly Moore, Poplar Springs; Allison Shelly and Alesiah Jenkins, both of West Lauderdale; and Yasmine Broach, Newton County; second row, from left, Jennifer Deen, Heather Tolon, Maryon Sillimon and Maggie Wooldridge, all of West Lauderdale; Briuanna Spivey and Nina Moore, both of Newton County; and April Hunt and Chloe McKElvaine, both of West Lauderdale; and third row, from left, Aliyah Moore, Kayla Feist, Terrianna Arrington, Amber Anderson, Mallory Thompson, Neshea Melillo, Alex Abston, Sierra Gutierrez and Anna Reid, all of West Lauderdale; Alley Moulds, Newton County; and Kendalyn Washington, Neshoba Central. The four-day instructional clinic was held under the supervision of Lady Warrior head coach Bill Smith and assistant Britta Stephens. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF July 1, 2012

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC WARRIOR BASKETBALL AWARD WINNERS

These members of the 2011-12 East Central Community College men's basketball team received honors at the Spring Sports Awards Banquet held May 1 on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are Bobby Wrench, a product of Columbus High School, most improved; Keivondre Watford of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) Central, most valuable defensive player; and Hakeem Wesley of Newton County, most valuable offensive player. Standing from left are LaVadius Lyles of Forest, scholar athlete; T.J. Leatherwood of Northridge High School, Tuscaloosa, Ala., hustle award; and Jimmie Broomfield of Scott Central, Warrior Award. ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin and Warrior head coach Maurice Bowie presented awards.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF July 8, 2012

JUCO | EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

ECCC photo

Former high school basketball standout Jenny Wilbanks is shown signing a national letter of intent with East Central Community College in Decatur. Wilbanks, a 6' forward, is a 2011 graduate of Leake Academy, where she received numerous honors while playing for Coach Doyle Wolverton. She was selected 2010-11 MAIS Player of the Year and was named most valuable player of the 2011 MAIS All-Star Game. She also received All-State and District MVP honors. Wilbanks scored 991 points her senior season and averaged 22.4 points per game. Pictured with the new Lady Warrior are (standing from left) her parents, Bobby and Lisa Wilbanks, and ECCC assistant coach Britta Stephens.

ECCC photo

Basketball standout Tyler Hearn-Ferguson (seated left) of West Jones High School is shown signing a national letter of intent to continue her career at East Central Community College in Decatur. Hearn-Ferguson, a 5-5 guard, averaged 15 points per game in leading West Jones in scoring during the 2011-12 season. She was also an All-District selection and received her team's most valuable player award. Sharon Pondarvis served as her head coach. Seated at right is ECCC assistant coach Britta Stephens. Standing from left are the new Lady Warrior's sister, Veronica Ferguson; and her parents, Johnny and Erica Ferguson of Laurel.

GOLF

ECCC Warrior Football Golf Tourney

Supporters of East Central Community College's football program are encour- [illegible] Warrior Golf Tourney scheduled Friday, July [illegible] at the Decatur Golf Club in Carthage. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. followed by a [illegible] start at 10 a.m. Prizes will be awarded for [illegible] $210 [illegible] Golf prizes and various giveaways. Corporate sponsorships are available for $400, which includes entry fee for one team and [illegible] sponsorships are available for $100, which includes entry fee for one team. Plaque prizes will be awarded for the [illegible] to be presented to winners [illegible] The [illegible] tournament only contests. For more information [illegible] Brian Atkinson (601-635-6290, bat[illegible]), Derek Pounsey (601-635-6248, dpounsey@eccc.edu).

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓x2

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF July 22, 2012

Wilbanks signs with ECCC

Former Leake Academy basketball standout Jenny Wilbanks is shown signing a national letter of intent with East Central Community College in Decatur. At Leake Academy she received numerous honors while playing for Coach Doyle Wolverton. She was selected 2010-11 MAIS Player of the Year and was named most valuable player of the 2011 MAIS All-Star Game. She also received All-State and District MVP honors. Wilbanks scored 991 points her senior season and averaged 22.4 points per game. Pictured with the new Lady Warrior are, from left, standing, her parents, Bobby and Lisa Wilbanks, and ECCC assistant coach Britta Stephens. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF July 22, 2012

ECCC women's basketball awards

These members of the 2011-12 East Central Community College women's basketball team received honors at the Spring Sports Awards Banquet. Seated from left are Kelcia Bufkin (Hustle Award), Jakela Johnson (Most Improved), and Inessa Adams (Scholar Athlete). Standing Alli Kirby (Warrior Award), Ja'Monica Orton (Most Valuable Offensive Player and two-time recipient of All-Region 23 and first team MACJC All-State honors), and Xzandra Dowd (Most Valuable Defensive Player).

ECCC photo

APPEARED IN:

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF July 29, 2012

East Central taps Porter

From school reports

Crandal Porter of Newton is the new women's head basketball coach at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart.

Porter, who turned 38 yesterday, succeeds Billy Smith who retired from the state system after leading the Warrior program for eight years. Smith was recently named girls' head basketball coach at Choctaw Central High School.

Porter

Dr. Stewart stated Coach Porter will be a great addition to the ECCC family.

"Coach Porter has won several state championships at Newton and is very active in his community," said Dr. Stewart. "He brings a passion for success to the program, and the committee and I feel that he will build on the standard and tradition of excellence established by so many previous coaches. He's dedicated and he's committed to helping his players succeed on the court and in the classroom; and for us, that's most important."

Porter, a Louisville native, said taking over the Warrior program is a "dream job and for it to happen on my birthday, it's the best present I could have. I'm absolutely elated to be given this opportunity!"

The new Warrior head mentor described his coaching style in one word: passionate.

"I definitely bring a lot of passion to the job," Porter stated. "Those who have seen me coach know I bring a passion for winning and a passion for helping my players succeed. I like for my teams to play hard, to be well prepared and I think that results in victories."

Porter served as girls' and boys' head basketball coach at Newton High School since 2001. He led the girls' squad to state Class 2A titles in 2005 and 2010. His Tiger squad captured the state Class 2A championship in 2008.

He began his successful career at his alma mater Louisville High School, where he served as boys' head basketball coach in 2000-01.

Porter has compiled an overall 494-216 record, which also includes seven division championships, three South State titles and eight tournament appearances.

Honors include The Meridian Star's Boys' Coach of the Year in 2000, MAC Class 2A Girls' Coach of the Year in 2005, MS All-Star Girls' Coach in 2005, MS All-Star Boys' Coach in 2009 and MAC Girls' Coach of the Year in 2010. He was selected Newton's Citizen of the Year in 2005.

Porter received a Bachelor of Science degree in Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance from Mississippi Valley State University in 1998 and earned a Master of Educational Leadership from Mississippi State University in 2010.

Porter is married to the former Crystal Johnson of Newton. He has a daughter, Amber Jamerson Porter, 15.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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August 5-2012

ECCC selects Porter to lead women

Crandal Porter of Newton is the new women's head basketball coach at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart.

Porter, who turned 38 on July 31, succeeds Billy Smith who retired from the state system after leading the Lady Warrior program for eight years. Smith was recently named girls' head basketball coach at Choctaw Central High School.

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PORTER

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WEEK OF August 19, 2012

Bender named ECCC assistant

from school reports

Former East Central Community College basketball standout Kotreece Bender of Newton has returned to her alma mater as an assistant to the recently named Warrior head coach Crandal Porter, former Newton head basketball coach.

Bender

Bender, who began her new duties on August 13, was previously employed by the Newton Municipal School District from 2007-12 and served as girls' assistant basketball coach for Porter. Her duties included coaching high school basketball and softball, and serving as a physical education instructor. She also tutored several students in geometry and reading at the high school and middle school levels.

As an assistant to Porter, Bender was instrumental in helping lead the Newton girls to the 2009-10 Class 2A state championship. She also served as head basketball coach of the junior high girls' team and posted a 62-18 record.

Bender was a basketball standout at Newton High School and continued her career at ECCC, where she helped lead the Warriors to Region 23, MACJC State and MACJC South Division titles and a second-place finish in the consolation bracket of the NJCAA Women's Basketball National Championship. The Brad Hodge-coached squad also finished eighth in the final NJCAA poll.

Bender received an associate's degree from ECCC in 2004 and recently earned a bachelor's degree in Inter Disciplinary Studies at Jackson State University.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF August 26-2012

ECCC hires pair of alums as assistant coaches

from school reports

DECATUR — Devarus "Scooter" Walker, a former East Central Community College basketball standout, has returned to his alma mater as an assistant to his former coach, Maurice Bowie.

Walker

Walker was a member of the 2007-08 and 2008-09 Warrior squads. He was also a two-year member of the tennis team.

He is a 2007 graduate of Newton County High School, where he was a member of state championship teams in tennis and was also a standout in basketball. He received honors in both sports.

Tate

Walker earned an associate's degree at ECCC in 2009 and received a bachelor's degree in physical education at William Carey University in Hattiesburg.

Donovan Tate is a recent addition to the football coaches' staff at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced head coach Brian Anderson. Tate will serve as wide receivers coach.

A 2007 graduate of Hattiesburg High School, Tate was a standout wide receiver on the 2007 and 2008 Warrior squads and earned honorable mention MACJC All-State honors in 2007.

Tate received an associate's degree in liberal arts in December 2008.

He continued his football career at Nicholls State University in Thibodaux, La., and received All-Conference Academic honors from 2009-11.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF October 27, 2012

East Central to showcase basketball squads at 'Haunted House of Hoops'

from school reports

DECATUR — A preview of East Central Community College's basketball talent for the 2012-13 campaign will be available Tuesday when the annual "Haunted House of Hoops" is held at 6 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

Brief scrimmages by the ECCC women and men will highlight the event, which also includes a 3-point shooting contest.

Team members will be introduced by their respective head coaches, first-year head mentor Crandal Porter, who takes over the women after a successful tenure coaching girls and boys at Newton High School, and Maurice Bowie, who begins his seventh year at the of the East Central men.

The East Central teams begin season action by traveling to Coahoma Community College on Thursday. The home opener is scheduled Nov. 12 with Holmes Community College. Game times are 6 and 8 p.m. in Brackeen-Wood.

Entertainment for the "Haunted House of Hoops" will be provided by the Centralettes, the dance line for the Wall O' Sound Marching Band; the Wall O' Sound Drum Line; and cheerleading squad.

"Trick or treat" candy will be available for youngsters and a costume contest will be held for EC students.

There is no charge for admission and the public is invited to attend.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF October 28, 2012

Porter, ECCC Women learning on the run

By Austin Bishop
Special To The Star

DECATUR — Although Crandal Porter has a winning pedigree, he is smart enough to know he has a lot to learn.

The first-year East Central Community College head women's basketball coach, who led Newton High School to a trio of MHSAA state championships, said he has done his share of learning over the last couple of months.

"The biggest thing for me has been getting acclimated to the difference between college and high school," he said. "Most of it has been off the court stuff, with the paperwork, financial aid and curfews. But there are some on the court things too. There is the time clock, the length of the games, when to use your timeouts and when to substitute. It's all a little different."

And Porter has been busy doing his homework.

"I have been calling a lot of people, just to get their views on things," he said. "Of course I will make my own final decisions, but I just wanted to talk to some people who have some experience."

Porter hopes to play a high-energy up-empo style when the Warriors kick off their season today at 6 p.m. in Clarksdale at Coahoma Community College. But, he will be putting a somewhat wounded team on the court.

"We had 15 players, then one transferred and a couple others decided not to play," he said. "We got down to 10 players dressed out and now three of them are hurt. They are going to be OK, we just don't know when we will get them all back."

Porter is inheriting a strong foundation from former ECCC coach Bill Smith, who retired in the summer after eight seasons coaching the women. The Warriors began the season at 0-11 last year, but finished strong, posting an 8-15 record and 7-5 mark in MACJC South Division play.

Among those returning are a pair of strong wing players in Xzandra Dowd and Jainah Matthew. Big contributors on the inside will be 6-foot-1 Jakela Johnson and 5-foot-11 Reneisha Evans, a Newton County High School product.

"So far they have done a really good job," he said. "The have welcomed the freshmen in and have helped me out a lot with the transition."

Among the freshmen Porter will be counting on heavily is Lawrence County High School point guard Taylor Brister.

"She has played in some high caliber games and she is no stranger to competition," he said. "This is going to be a different level, but she will be able to handle it."

Tyneisa Mickens of Noxubee County will be the first player off the bench and will provide great depth at the wings. Also being counted on to help will by Tyler Hern, Niya Hughes, Chelsea Campbell, and Nakia Miller.

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WEEK OF October 28, 2012

www.eccc.edu

East Central will look to use its experience on the court in the upcoming season. With almost everyone back from last season's team, the Warriors will try to improve on a 3-19 record.

Warriors hope experience translates to wins

By Austin Bishop
Special to The Star

DECATUR — Experience matters. That's exactly what East Central Community College men's basketball coach Maurice Bowie is counting on.

"We have pretty much our whole team returning," Bowie said. "We got a lot of experience last year and built a strong foundation. It's hard to express how much experience matters."

Bowie said freshmen have a lot of things to learn and a good portion of it is not even on the basketball court.

"They have to learn a lot about time management," he said. "To play a sport in college and take care of your academics you have to be pretty good at taking care of priorities. We have to really retrain them from high school."

Last year's Warriors struggled to a 3-19 finish, but Bowie says his team can post some big numbers this season.

"I feel good about our team," he said. "I think we have a chance to compete for the South and host the state tournament. That's what we want to do."

Handling the point from the outset will be returning sophomore T.J. Leatherwood, but Bowie expects Chris Rhoney a 6-foot-1 freshman from West Lauderdale to push for more playing time as he gains experience

"The best thing T.J. has going for him is his experience and I've talked to him about using that to his advantage," Bowie said. "Chris just doesn't understand the speed of the game yet, but that will come."

ECCC returns its leading scorer in Newton County High School sophomore Hakeem Wesley, who averaged 10 points a game last year.

Aquill Baynard, a 6-foot-8 sophomore who has transferred back to East Central for his sophomore year, is expected to play a major role for the Warriors in the paint, while Akeem Toppin will also play an inside role for ECCC.

Another key returnee for the Warriors is 6-foot-5 Keivondre Watford, who was one of the top defenders in the MACJC last season.

The Warriors are set to open their season at Coahoma Community College tonight.Bowie said watching the video of his team's season-opener with Coahoma last season pointed out what the differences must be between this year's team and last year's for the Warriors to be successful.

"Last year in the first half of the game playing with all those freshmen we had 15 turnovers," he said. "This year, we need to turn those turnovers into assists and cut down on the mistakes."

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WEEK OF November 4, 2012

ECCC women win by one at Coahoma

Sophomore Jaianah Matthew pumped in 18 points and led East Central Community College's Lady Warriors to a 55-54 win over Coahoma Community College in the season opener for both squads held Thursday, Nov. 1 on the Clarksdale campus.

Matthew is a 5-8 guard and product of Arkansas High School in Texarkana, Ark.

Other EC scorers were Jakela Jones of West Jones, 11; Xzandra Dowd of Neville (La.) High School, nine; Reneisha Evans of Newton County, seven; Niya Hughes of Forest, four; and Nakia Miller of Louisville, Taylor Brister of Lawrence County and Tyneisa Mickens of Noxubee County, two each.

Shyuna Johnson poured in 15 points to lead the Lady Tigers. Her trey in the game's final seconds narrowed the EC advantage to 55-54 but the Lady Warriors held on and provided Crandal Porter with his first win as head coach.

East Central led 29-21 at the break.

EC's men were not as fortunate in their season opener and fell 77-71 to the host Tigers.

Sophomore Hakeem Wesley was EC's top scorer with 24 points. Wesley is a 6' guard and product of Newton County High School.

Other point makers were Aquill Baynard of Elsik High School in Houston, Texas, 15; Walter Evans of Hattiesburg, eight; Akeem Topping of Columbus, seven; Demarcus Clayton of Bay Springs, five; Christopher Rhoney of West Lauderdale and Jamere Eichelberger of Louisville, four each; Bobby Wrench of Columbus, three; and T. J. Leatherwood of Northridge (Ala.) High School, one.

Maurice Bowie serves as head coach.

Coahoma was led by Alex Thompson and Rigues Desorvul, who each had 15 points.

APPEARED IN:

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ECCC squads stumble at Itawamba Thursday

F November 11, 2012

East Central Community College's basketball squads continue to struggle against MACJC North Division competition as both teams dropped decisions at Itawamba Community College Thursday night in Fulton.

The Lady Warriors were outscored by an 85-65 margin and the Warriors' rally fell short in a 76-68 setback.

Sophomore forward Jakela Johnson of Laurel poured in 25 points to lead the EC women, whose record stands a 1-3 under first-year head coach Crandal Porter.

Johnson, a 6-1 forward, also collected 10 rebounds. She is a product of West Jones High School.

Other point makers were Tyneisa Mickens of Noxubee County, 13; Jaianah Matthew of Arkansas High School in Texarkana, 10; Reneisha Evans of Newton County, eight; Niya Hughes of Forest, five; Xzandra Dowd of Neville (La.) High School, three; and Nakia Miller of Louisville, one.

Evans led in rebounds with 12. Dowd was credited with 10 boards.

Latoya Collins pumped in 24 points to lead the Lady Indians, who improved to 1-1.

EC trailed 37-33 at the break.

In the men's contest, East Central trailed 41-25 at the break but rallied to outscore the Indians by a 43-35 margin in second half action.

Other point makers were Hakeem Wesley of Newton County, 15; Walter Evans of Hattiesburg, seven; TeJiminion Leatherwood of Northridge (Ala.) High School and Chris Rhoney of West Lauderdale, six each; Demarcus Clayton of Bay Springs and Jamere Eichelberger of Louisville, four each; and Bobby Wrench of Columbus and Keivondre Watford of Tuscaloosa County, two each.

Deontaye Ewing scored 26 points to lead the Indians, who improved to 1-1.

ECCC squads travel to Mississippi Delta Community College Saturday, Nov. 10. Game times are 2 and 4 p.m. on the Moorhead campus.

EC swept at home

After trailing 43-16 in first-half action, East Central Community College's Lady Warriors rallied to take a slim lead late in the contest but the Holmes Community College women made key shots in the final seconds to claim a hard-fought 79-77 decision in EC's home opener Monday night.

Sophomore Jaianah Matthew led the comeback attempt with 27 points and six rebounds but her efforts fell short as EC fell to 1-5 under first-year head coach Crandal Porter.

Matthew, a 5-8 guard, is a product of Arkansas High School in Texarkana, Ark.

Jakela Johnson also had a productive night as she poured in 20 points and grabbed seven rebounds.

Other scorers for EC included Xzandra Dowd, 12; Reneisha Evans, eight; Tynesia Mickens, five; Taylor Brister, three; and Nakia Miller, two. Dowd led in rebounds with nine.

EC trailed 48-25 at the break but outscored the visitors by a 52-31 margin to almost complete the rally.

In the men's contest, EC trailed 32-24 at halftime and was unable to overcome the deficit in a 72-58 setback to the visitors.

Sophomore forward Akeem Toppin tallied 15 points and hauled in eight rebounds to lead the Warriors who are winless in six starts under seventh-year head coach Maurice Bowie.

Other point makers were Aquill Baynard, 14; Hakeem Wesley, nine; Keivondre Watford, eight; Chris Rhoney, five; Demarcus Clayton, four; TeJiminion Leatherwood of two; and Jamere Eichelberger, one.

Kenitric Gillum scored 17 points to the lead the Bulldogs who improved to 3-1 and registered their second win over EC in 2012. Holmes claimed a 77-68 decision Nov. 3 in Goodman.

EC squads host Northeast Mississippi Community College Thursday, Nov. 15.

Sophomore forward Aquill Baynard of Houston, Texas, tallied 22 points and grabbed eight rebounds to lead the Warriors who remain winless in four starts under seventh-year head coach Maurice Bowie.

Baynard is a 6-9 product of Elsik (Texas) High School.

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WEEK OF November 11, 2012

EC squads stumble at Itawamba during North

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Division competition

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2012-13 Basketball Schedule

NOVEMBER

1	@ Coahoma	6:00/8:00 p.m.
3	@ Holmes	1:00/3:00 p.m.
5	@ Northeast	5:30/7:30 p.m.
8	@ Itawamba	5:30/7:30 p.m.
10	@ MS Delta	2:00/4:00 p.m.
12	Holmes	6:00/8:00 p.m.
15	Northeast	6:00/8:00 p.m.
17	Itawamba	1:00/3:00 p.m.

DECEMBER

3	Pearl River	6:00/8:00 p.m.
6	East MS	6:00/8:00 p.m.
8	@ Northwest	1:00/3:00 p.m.

JANUARY

8	@ East MS	5:30/7:30 p.m.
14	@ Hinds	6:00/8:00 p.m.
17	MS Gulf Coast	6:00/8:00 p.m.
22	@ Co-Lin	6:00/8:00 p.m.
24	@ Southwest	5:30/7:30 p.m.
28	Jones	6:00/8:00 p.m.

FEBRUARY

4	@ Pearl River	5:00/7:00 p.m.
7	Hinds	6:00/8:00 p.m.
11	@ MS Gulf Coast	6:00/8:00 p.m.
14	Co-Lin	6:00/8:00 p.m.
18	Southwest	6:00/8:00 p.m.
21	@ Jones	6:00/8:00 p.m.

East Central Community College

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November 11, 2012

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JOURNAL

EC hoopsters prepare for '12 campaign

from school reports

East Central Community College head basketball coaches Crandal Porter and Maurice Bowie are confident they have the players in place for a successful 2012-13 campaign.

Porter, who begins his first year as Lady Warrior head coach, comes to EC following a successful career at Newton High School, where his girls' squads captured two state titles and the boys' squad also claimed a state championship.

Porter inherits a Lady Warrior team that found success late in the 2011-12 campaign, as the Bill Smith-led squad overcame a 0-11 start to place fourth in the MACJC South Division at 7-5 and qualify for the state playoffs. EC was eliminated in first-round action and finished 8-15 under Smith, who retired and was later named head coach at Choctaw Central High School.

The new Lady Warrior head mentor said he has learned a lot about JUCO basketball since taking over the program on July 1.

"The biggest thing for me has been getting acclimated to the difference between college and high school," he said. "Most of it has been off the court stuff, with the paperwork, financial aid and curfew matters. But there are some on-the-court things to learn as well...such as the time clock, length of games....when to use your timeouts and when to substitute. It's all a little different."

Ready to begin a successful 2012-13 campaign are the above members of the East Central Community College men's basketball team. Seated from left are manager LaRomeo McKee, a product of Scott Central High School; guards TeJiminon Leatherwood (3) of Northridge (Ala.) High School, Hakeem Wesley (14) of Newton County and Chris Rhoney (11) of West Lauderdale; forwards Walter Evans (15) of Hattiesburg and Demarcus Clayton (20) of Bay Springs; guards Jamere Eichelberger (22) of Louisville and Jakaris Coleman (31) of Forest Hill; and manager Michael Taylor of Hattiesburg. Standing from left are assistant coach Devarus "Scooter" Walker; manager Michael McCullum, Bay Springs; forwards Bobby Wrench (21) of Columbus, Tyler Anderson (25) of Carver Military Academy in Chicago, Vodrick Lucious (34) of Tuscaloosa County, Aquill Baynard (23) of Elsik High School, Houston, Texas; Akeem Toppin (10) of Columbus and Keivondre Watford (32) of Tuscaloosa County; manager Rosco Spires of Forest Hill and head coach Maurice Bowie. The Warriors begin home action Monday, Nov. 12, when they battle Holmes Community College at 8 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus. (EC Photo)

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Porter has been busy learning as much as possible regarding his new challenge.

"I have been calling a lot of people, just to get their views on things," he said. "Of course I will make my own decisions, but I just wanted to talk to some people who have some experience."

Porter said he plans for his Lady Warriors to play a high-energy, up-tempo style, which might be a challenge in the early goings due to injuries.

"We had 15 players to begin with, then one transferred and a couple of others decided not to play," he said. "We got down to 10 players dressed out and three of them are hurt. They are going to be OK, we just don't know when we will get them all back."

His Lady Warrior team features five sophomores and six freshmen.

Returnees and their respective high schools include forwards Ellen Black (6-1) of Scott Central, Reneisha Evans (5-11) of Newton County and Jakela Johnson (6-1) of West Jones; and guards Xzandra Dowd (5-8) of Neville High School in Monroe, La., and Jainah Matthew (5-8) of Arkansas High School in Texarkana.

Newcomers are guards Tyneisa Mickens (5-9) of Noxubee County, Taylor Brister (5-2) of Lawrence County, Tyler Hearn (5-5) of West Jones, Chelsea Campbell (5-7) of Forest; and forwards Nakia Miller (5-10) of Louisville and Niya Hughes (5-9) of Forest.

See **ECCC**, page 10

Ready to begin a successful 2012-13 campaign are the above members of the East Central Community College men's basketball team. Seated from left are manager LaRomeo McKee, a product of Scott Central High School; guards TeJiminon Leatherwood (3) of Northridge (Ala.) High School, Hakeem Wesley (14) of Newton County and Chris Rhoney (11) of West Lauderdale; forwards Walter Evans (15) of Hattiesburg and Demarcus Clayton (20) of Bay Springs; guards Jamere Eichelberger (22) of Louisville and Jakaris Coleman (31) of Forest Hill; and manager Michael Taylor of Hattiesburg. Standing from left are assistant coach Devarus "Scooter" Walker; manager Michael McCullum, Bay Springs; forwards Bobby Wrench (21) of Columbus, Tyler Anderson (25) of Carver Military Academy in Chicago, Vodrick Lucious (34) of Tuscaloosa County, Aquill Baynard (23) of Elsik High School, Houston, Texas; Akeem Toppin (10) of Columbus and Keivondre Watford (32) of Tuscaloosa County; manager Rosco Spires of Forest Hill and head coach Maurice Bowie. The Warriors begin home action Monday, Nov. 12, when they battle Holmes Community College at 8 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus. (EC Photo)

WEEK OF

ECCC

Continued from page 9

Maurice Bowie begins his seventh year as Warrior head coach. He is depending upon a talented group of sophomores to lead the squad to a successful campaign.

"We have pretty much our whole team returning," Bowie said. "We got a lot of experience last year and built a strong foundation. It's hard to express how much experience matters."

Bowie hopes "experience" turns into "winning" after last year's squad struggled with a 3-19 mark.

"I feel good about this team," he said. "I think we have a chance to compete for the South (division title) and host the state tournament. That's what we want to do."

Crandal Porter

Sophomore players and their respective high schools include guards TeJiminon Leatherwood (5-7) of Northridge (Ala.), Hakeem Wesley (6') of Newton County; and forwards Akeem Toppin (6-5) and Bobby Wrench (6-5), both of Columbus; Aquill Baynard (6-8) of Elsik High School, Houston, TX, Keivondre Watford (6-5), Tuscaloosa Central and Vodrick Lucious (6-6), Tuscaloosa County.

Wesley returns as the leading scorer, averaging 10 points per contest.

Maurice Bowie

Bowie expects Leatherwood to handle the point from the outset.

"The best thing T.J. has going for him is his experience, and I've talked to him about using that to his advantage," Bowie said.

Baynard, who transferred back to EC for his sophomore season, is expected to play a major role in the paint, while Toppin will also play an inside role for the Warriors.

Watford is another key returnee for EC. He was recognized as one of the top defenders in the MACJC last season.

Bowie is also pleased with his newcomers, led by guard Chris Rhoney (6-1) of West Lauderdale.

"I expect Chris to push for more playing time as he gains experience," said Bowie. "He just doesn't know the speed of the game yet, but that will come."

Other freshmen include guards Jamere Eichelberger (6-1) of Louisville and Jakaris Coleman (6-1) of Forest Hill, and forwards Walter Evans (6-3) of Hattiesburg, Demarcus Clayton (6-5) of Bay Springs and Tyler Anderson (6-5) of Carver Military Academy, Chicago.

Bowie said for the Warriors to be successful in 2012-13, mistakes must be avoided.

"Last year in the first half of the game playing with all those freshmen we had too many turnovers," he said. "This year, we need to turn those turnovers into assists and cut down on the mistakes.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ___
NEWTON COUNTY A
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WEEK OF November 18, 2012

ECCC squads drop decisions to Northeast

East Central Community College's basketball squads continue to struggle in early season action as both registered setbacks to Northeast Mississippi Community College Thursday night in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus.

The Lady Warriors were outscored by a 79-66 margin and the Warriors fell 94-69 in the non-division battles.

Sophomores Xzandra Dowd and Jaianah Matthew each tallied 11 points to lead the EC women, who dropped to 1-6 overall under first-year head coach Crandal Porter.

Dowd is a 5-8 guard from Neville (La.) High School. Matthew is also a 5-8 guard and hails from Arkansas High School in Texarkana, Ark.

Other scorers were Jakela Johnson of West Jones, 10; Niya Hughes of Forest and Reneisa Evans of Newton County, eight each; Tyneeisa Mickens of Noxubee County, seven; Chelsea Campbell of Forest, five; Nakia Miller of Louisville, four; and Tyler Hearn of West Jones, two.

Angelia Allan poured in 21 points to lead the Lady Tigers, who evened their record at 2-2.

EC trailed 36-25 at the break.

Sophomore Hakeem Wesley pumped in 22 points to lead the Warriors who remain winless in seven starts under seventh-year head coach Maurice Bowie.

Wesley is a 6' guard and product of Newton County High School.

Other point makers were Tejiminon Leatherwood of Northridge (Ala.) High School, 11; Aquill Baynard of Elsik (Texas) High School, 10; Brock Hall of Paul W. Bryant High School in Tuscaloosa, eight; Keivondre Watford of Tuscaloosa Central, five; Chris Rhoney of West Lauderdale, four; Demarcus Clayton of Bay Springs, three; Akeem Toppin of Columbus and Walter Evans of Hattiesburg, two each; and Jamere Eichelberger of Louisville and Tyler Anderson of Carver Military Academy in Chicago, one each.

Acie Vance tallied 21 points to lead the Tigers who evened their record at 2-2.

EC trailed 47-37 at the break.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors host Itawamba Community College Saturday, Nov. 17. Game times are 1 and 3 p.m. in Brackeen-Wood.

Both squads return to action following the Thanksgiving holidays by hosting Pearl River Community College Monday, Dec. 3 in the MACJC South Division opener. Games times are 6 and 8 p.m. in Brackeen-Wood.

APPEARED IN:

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF November 25, 2012

ECCC PHOTO

SCOTT COUNTIANS AMONG LADY WARRIORS

Planning on another successful season are the above members of the 2012-13 East Central Community College women's basketball team. Seated from left are guards *Chelsea Campbell (15) of Forest High School*, Tyler Hearn (12) of West Jones, Taylor Brister (11) of Lawrence County and Tynesia Mickens (4) of Noxubee County, and forward *Niya Hughes (23) of Forest*. Standing from left are managers *Ashley Lyle of Scott Central* and Blake Gordon of Philadelphia; guard Xzandra Dowd (24), Neville High School, Monroe, La; forwards Reneisha Evans (30) of Newton County, *Ellen Black (5) of Scott Central* and Jakela Johnson (34) of West Jones; guard Jaianah Matthew (25) of Arkansas High School, Texarkana; forward Nakia Miller (10) of Louisville; and managers LeKeya Brown of Wayne County and *Pasha Williams of Scott Central*. Not pictured are head coach Crandal Porter and assistant Kotreece Bender. The Lady Warriors began home action November 12.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF December 9, 2012

ECCC, EMCC split rivalry contests

Two longtime rivals battled on the basketball court Thursday night in Decatur and each team claimed a victory.

In the first matchup, East Central Community College's Lady Warriors rallied from a slim halftime deficit and held on for a 49-41 decision over the East Mississippi Community College women.

EC's Warriors were not as fortunate as their second half rally fell short in an 82-72 setback to the East Mississippi Lions.

Jaianah Matthew pumped in 21 points to lead the Lady Warriors, who improved to 4-6 overall under first-year head coach Crandal Porter.

Matthew is a 5-8 sophomore guard and product of Arkansas High School in Texarkana, AR.

Other EC scorers were Tynesia Mickens of Noxubee County, 10; Niya Hughes of Forest, nine; Xzandra Dowd of Neville (La.) High School, five; and Reneisha Evans of Newton County, four. Dowd led in rebounds with 12.

Nockeyia Qualls tallied 10 points to lead the Lady Lions, who fell to 1-9.

EC trailed 18-17 at the break.

In the men's contest, Hakeem Wesley blistered the backboards with 30 points but his efforts fell short as the Warriors remain winless after 10 games under seventh-year head coach Maurice Bowie.

Wesley is a 6' sophomore guard and product of Newton County High School.

Other EC point makers were Aquill Baynard of Elsik (Texas) High School, nine; Chris Rhoney of West Lauderdale, eight; Bobby Wrench of Columbus, seven; Keivondre Watford of Tuscaloosa Central, six; Akeem Toppin of Columbus, four; Jamere Eichelberger of Louisville and Walter Evans of Hattiesburg, three each; and TeJiminon Leatherwood of Northridge (Ala.) High School, two.

Jarekious Bradley poured in 28 points to lead the Lions, who improved to 5-1.

East Mississippi held a 41-28 advantage at the half.

EC squads close out 2012 competition by traveling to Northwest Mississippi Community College Saturday, December 8. Game times are 1 and 3 p.m. on the Senatobia campus.

APPEARED IN:

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF December 23, 2012

ECCC squads fall at Northwest

Competition in 2012 ended on a disappointing note for East Central Community College's basketball squads who fell to Northwest Mississippi Community College teams Saturday afternoon on the Senatobia campus.

The Lady Warriors were outscored by a 72-59 margin and the Warriors dropped an 82-69 decision.

Sophomore guard Xzandra Dowd poured in 25 points to lead EC's women, who fell to 4-7 under first-year head coach Crandal Porter.

Dowd is a product of Nevill High School in Monroe, La.

Other scorers were Reneisha Evans of Newton County, seven; Chelsea Campbell and Niya Hughes, both of Forest, six each; Jaianah Matthew of Arkansas High School in Texarkana, Ark., four; and Nakia Miller of Louisville, two.

Evans led in rebounds with 18 and Dowd had 11.

Tiesha Tunstall tallied 16 points to lead the Lady Rangers, who improved to 8-2.

Northwest led 33-22 at halftime.

In the men's contest, sophomores Hakeem Wesley pumped in 22 points and Aquill Baynard chipped in 17 but the Warriors remain winless in 11 starts under seven-year head coach Maurice Bowie.

Wesley is a 6' guard from Newton County High School and Baynard is a 6-8 forward and product of Elsik High School in Houston, Texas.

Other point makers were Akeem Topping of Columbus, 10; Keivondre Watford of Tuscaloosa Central Chris Rhoney of West Lauderdale, five each; TeJiminon Leatherwood of Northridge High School in Northport, Ala., four; and Walter Evans of Hattiesburg, Tyler Anderson of Carver Military Academy in Chicago and Jamere Eichelberger of Louisville, two each.

Watford led in rebounds with seven.

DeMarcus McVay scored 17 point to lead the Rangers, who improved to 6-3. EC trailed 45-26 at the break.

The Lady Warriors and Warrior resume competition after the Christmas holidays by traveling to East Mississippi Community College Tuesday, Jan. 8.

Game times are 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. on the Scooba campus.

APPEARED IN:

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

Board / Officials

WEEK OF January 1, 2012

ECCC PHOTO

Frank McCurdy (center) of Morton displays a plaque he received for 16 years of service as a member of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees. McCurdy served on the Board during his tenure as Scott County Supt. of Education. Also pictured are Board Chairman Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth (left) of Lake and ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

APPEARED IN:

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

College Visitors / Events /

WEEK OF January 8, 2012

Rotary receives update on ECCC

From staff reports

Dr. Randall Lee, Vice President For Student Services at East Central Community College, updated the Louisville Rotary Club on the progress of the college and its goals.

Lee, an ECCC graduate, noted Winston County played a major role at ECCC since over 42 percent of its in district students come from Winston County.

"Winston Countians have a great relationship with ECCC," said Lee.

Lee noted that student enrollment at ECCC continued to grow and reached over 3220 last year.

"We were one of the three community colleges to have an increase in enrollment last year," said Lee.

Lee explained the increase in enrollment was due to the affordable tuition and the quality education.

"Our tuition is $895 per semester," said Lee. "Our students tend to succeed well at the university level."

He added that since ECCC offered the same core classes and training as the university for the first two years that the ECCC experience was a good deal for parents and students.

While athletics has an important place at ECCC, Lee noted that academics were number 1 at ECCC. This focus on academics is the reason the university has plans for upcoming construction and renovations plans especially for science departments and other areas.

Lee is also a former vice president for student affairs at Three Rivers Community College in Poplar Bluff, Missouri, where he served from 2002-2006.

His administrative experience also includes a stint as district dean of academics at East Mississippi Community College in Scooba, from 2000-2002.

In addition, he is also a former adjunct psychology instructor for the University of Maryland in Europe, Maryland, and also taught psychology courses at Fayetteville Technical Community College in Fayetteville, North Carolina.

Lee began his employment at ECCC in 1994 as academic counselor. He was named acting dean of students in August 1996 and officially assumed the post in October of that year.

Enrollment reached 2,228 during his tenure and included a 16 percent increase during a one-year period, the largest in school history. He also managed and executed a retention program that resulted in the largest percentage of fulltime freshmen (79 percent) returning for their sophomore year. The enrollment and retention increases also led to an increase of personnel in the student services area. Lee served four years at ECCC prior to joining the EMCC administrative staff in 2000.

Lee is also a longtime member of the military and will observe 33 years of service with the U.S. Army in October 2010. He was deployed to the Middle East in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom in 2008. After serving as Assistant Chief of Staff for Personnel overseas, he now serves as Command and Control Chief for a Medical Support Training Battalion.

He is an honor graduate of Beulah Hubbard High School, East Central Junior College and the University of Southern Mississippi, where he received bachelor and master's degrees. He is currently pursuing a doctoral degree from USM.

Lee and his wife, Michelle, have two children.

The Rotary Club of Louisville meets each Wednesday at noon at Lake Tiak O'Khata. Interested parties should speak to a Rotarian about attending. The January 11 meeting of Rotary will host Neil Holliman, Head Baseball Coach at East Central Community College.

Lee

PEAL

COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

LEDGER

Alumni / Scholarships / Homecoming

WEEK OF January 15, 2012

Pam Harris scholarship established at ECCC

A scholarship in memory of Pam Reeves Harris was recently established at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Harris was an educator for 28 years in the Newton County School District when she lost her battle with cancer in June 2008.

A Newton County native, Harris began her teaching career in 1978 at Hickory High School but spent most of her career at Decatur High School as a special education instructor. Her passion was "to help children achieve success and happiness in all that

they attempted." Her dedication and love for her students and co-workers "were obvious to those who knew her."

A graduate of Decatur High School, she attended ECCC for one year before transferring to Mississippi State University, where she received a bachelor's degree in special education in 1979.

She was married to Chris Harris for 30 years when she lost her battle with cancer in June 2005.They had three children, Kelli, Krissi and Cole.

The Pam Harris Memorial Scholarship – when endowed - will be awarded by her immediate family during the annual ECCC/AT&T Scholarship Awards Luncheon held during the summer.

Recipients will be selected by the College's Scholarship Committee from applicants who meet the following criteria: (1) Newton County High School graduate; (2) education major attending ECCC; (3) minimum 2.5 GPA upon entering ECCC; (4) strong leadership qualities; (5) full-time ECCC student; (6) completed application form: and (6) demonstrate financial need.

For more information or to make a contribution to the Pam Reeves Harris Memorial Scholarship, contact Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director of foundation and alumni relations, 601-635-6327 or e-mail sholling@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF January 29, 2012

ECCC receives grant for Founders' Gym

Special to The Star

DECATUR – East Central Community College's efforts to renovate Founders' Gym received a financial boost thanks to an $80,000 grant from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History.

The ECCC award is included among 19 projects totaling $2 million in preservation grants provided across the state through the Community Heritage Grant Program, authorized by and funded by the Mississippi Legislature.

The $80,000 amount, combined with a local match of $20,000, will create a total project budget of $100,000 and provides the necessary funding to complete the first phase of the much-anticipated project, said ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

"We plan to use the funds to restore the south arcade," said Dr. Phil A. Sutphin. "It is our intent to bring Founders' Gym to its original look while also modernizing the historic structure. We continue to seek private funds which will be needed to complete the project."

Founders' Gym is recognized as one of the oldest buildings on campus and the oldest standing brick gymnasium in east Mississippi. The structure was recently declared a Mississippi historic landmark.

Fundraising efforts were initiated in 2008 to renovate the gym, which played host to hundreds of basketball games from 1930 to 1970, including local, state and regional championships for both high school and college level teams. The gym was also used for May Day programs, proms, dances, plays, musicals, graduations and many community events.

Founders' Gym is named in honor of Dr. Benjamin Franklin "Frank" Hunter, James "Jim" McDonald Thames and others instrumental in establishing the College in 1928.

Dr. Sutphin said the renovation project includes four stages at an estimated cost of $8 million. Approximately $6,000 has been raised as of Dec. 31, 2011.

Contributions may be made to the ECCC Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327.

For more information, contact Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director, Foundation and Alumni Relations, (601) 635-6327 or call toll free, (877) 462-3222, ext. 327. The e-mail address is sholling@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

Faculty / Administration

WEEK OF January 29, 2012

Holekamp named EC automotive instructor

Greg Holekamp of Tupelo was recently selected automotive technology instructor at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCC president.

Holekamp, who began his new duties on Jan. 6, previously served as a Master Certified service technician at Belk Ford in Oxford, where he was employed since 2006. He held the same position at Metro Ford in Tupelo from 2001-2006 and at Starkville Ford, Lincoln, Mercury, Inc., from 1998-2001.

HOLEKAMP

He holds an Associate of Applied Science degree in Automotive Services Technology from East Mississippi Community College in 1999. While a student at EMCC, he was a member of SkillsUSA and won second place in automotive technology at state competition his sophomore year.

Holekamp has completed additional course work in Industrial Technology at Mississippi State University in Starkville.

He is married to the former Melissa Gainer of Hamilton. They have a daughter, Tawnie.

APPEARED IN:

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Pouncey scholarship established at ECCC

from school reports

A scholarship in memory of former head football coach Ken Pouncey was recently established at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Pouncey led the Warrior football program for 15 years and served one year as an assistant coach during his tenure from 1966 to 1982.

The scholarship description noted Pouncey's "passion" for working with players on the football field, and his "interaction" with students in his physical education classes.

He also mentored and encouraged his children athletes, and students "to be the most they could be."

After a successful coaching career, Pouncey served as superintendent of the Newton County School District and was instrumental in consolidating the schools of Beulah Hubbard, Decatur, and Hickory.

He also served as superintendent of the Enterprise School District until his retirement in 2001.

The Coach Ken Pouncey Memorial Scholarship will be awarded once the endowment fund reaches the $10,000 mark. Contributions may be made payable to the ECCC Foundation, Inc., and sent to Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for foundation and alumni relations, P.O. Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327.

The scholarship is designated for an ECCC sophomore education major with a minimum 3.0 grade point average and a resident of the College's five-county district. Recipients will selected by the ECCC Scholarship Committee.

Week of February 5, 2012

Neshoba Democrat_____

Scott County Times_____

Winston County Journal____

Clarion-Ledger_____

WEEK OF March 11, 2012

Winston County Journal www.winstoncountyjournal.com

Visit ECCC

Winston Officials Visit ECCC

Winston County officials were luncheon guests at the East Central Community College Board of Trustees meeting held Feb. 8, 2012, on the Decatur campus. The special campus visitors are shown with Winston County trustees following the meal. Seated from left are District Four Supervisor Gloria Turnipseed, Circuit Clerk Kim Ming, District Five Supervisor Larry Duran, District Three Supervisor Mike Peterson, District One Supervisor Warner Burr and Tax Assessor-Collector Larry Woodard. Standing from left are Winston County trustees Jerry Nance, Louisville Municipal School District Superintendent Dr. William C. Wade, Randal Livingston and Delane Hudson, all of Louisville; and Leo Parker, Noxapater. Not pictured is trustee Patsy Clark of Louisville. Board of Trustees Chairman Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth of Lake and ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin expressed appreciation to the Winston County officials for their support of the College. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF March 11, 2012

Anna Kerr Cain joins ECCC

Anna Kerr Cain of Chunky is a recent addition to the Adult Basic Education/GED Department at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Ryan Clarke, program director.

Cain began her new duties as a part-time GED Examiner and most recently was named Dropout Recovery Recruiter.

As the College's Dropout Recovery Recruiter, Cain travels throughout the five-county district promoting ABE/GED class locations, which include the ECCC campus; Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career-Technical Center; ECCC Career Advancement Center in Louisville; Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center in Forest; Leake County Career-Technical Center in Carthage; Carthage Career Advancement Center; Forest WIN Job Center; and Morton Public Library.

In 2008, the Mississippi Legislature began funding the Dropout Recovery Initiative at all 15 community and junior colleges. The goal of the legislation is to lower the number of Mississippi adults without a high school diploma or GED from 26 percent to the national average of 20 percent with 10 years, which according to estimates would fuel an estimated $793,840,800 in economic benefits for the state.

"As a result of the initiative, members of our ABE/GED classes who qualify as first-time GED Test takers have their initial fee waived, a savings of $75 per student," said Clarke. "East Central is also able to provide one free college class for each GED recipient attending college for the first time as a part-time student."

Anna Kerr Cain

Cain was previously employed with Regions Bank in Newton, Security National Bank in Ruston, La., and Creative Images and Pretty Presentations, both located in Newton.

She is a 1998 graduate of ECCC, where she was a member of the Ac'cents Show Choir and Centralettes, the dance line for the Wall O' Sound Marching Band.

She is married to Jason Cain and they have three children: Peyton, Olivia and Riley Kerr, all students in the Newton County School District.

They are members of Hickory Baptist Church.

Cain is also available to speak to community organizations about the College's ABE/GED Program and can be contacted at 601-635-6278.

APPEARED IN:

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF March 18, 2012

Dr. Billy Stewart selected ECCC President

Special to The Star

An administrator from Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College in Perkinston emerged from four finalists to become the next president of East Central Community College in Decatur.

Dr. Billy W. Stewart, vice president for administration and finance at MGCCC, was unanimously selected ECCC's eighth president at the Board of Trustees meeting held Tuesday.

See STEWART on page A3

Dr. Billy Stewart (center) was selected the eighth president of East Central Community College during a late afternoon press conference held on the Decatur campus on Tuesday. Also shown are Dr. Stewart's wife, Stephanie, and ECCC Board of Trustees Chairman Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth of Lake, who announced the board's unanimous decision. Dr. Stewart currently serves as vice president for administration and finance at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College in Perkinston. Dr. Stewart begins his new duties on July 1, 2012.

Submitted photo

STEWART from page A1

ECCC Board of Trustees Chairman Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth of Lake said Dr. Stewart and Dr. Michael J. "Mike" McGrevey, were recommended for the top post following interviews of four finalists conducted by the Presidential Search Committee, composed of Board of Trustees members representing the College's support district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties.

Dr. Stewart received a standing ovation by board members as he was introduced by Dr. Hollingsworth at a press conference following the meeting.

"Dr. Stewart brings great community college experience and a dynamic vision for the future of ECCC," Dr. Hollingsworth said.

Dr. Stewart, MGCCC's Administrator of the Year for 2011-12, said he looks forward to taking East Central Community College to even greater levels of excellence. He begins his new duties on July 1.

"I am excited about working with the ECCC family and building upon the foundation as set forth by Dr. Phil Sutphin, Dr. Eddie M. Smith and the other former presidents," Dr. Stewart said.

The other top candidates were Dr. Randall E. Lee, ECCC vice president for student services; and Dr. Andrea Mayfield, vice president for academic instruction/institutional research and effectiveness/SACS liaison at East Mississippi Community College in Scooba.

Dr. Stewart, 43, succeeds Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, who earlier announced plans to retire on June 30, following 12 years of service leading the two-year institution.

As MGCCC's chief financial officer, Dr. Stewart oversees a budget of more than $100 million covering the college's four comprehensive campuses and four centers. The College has an annual payroll in excess of $48 million.

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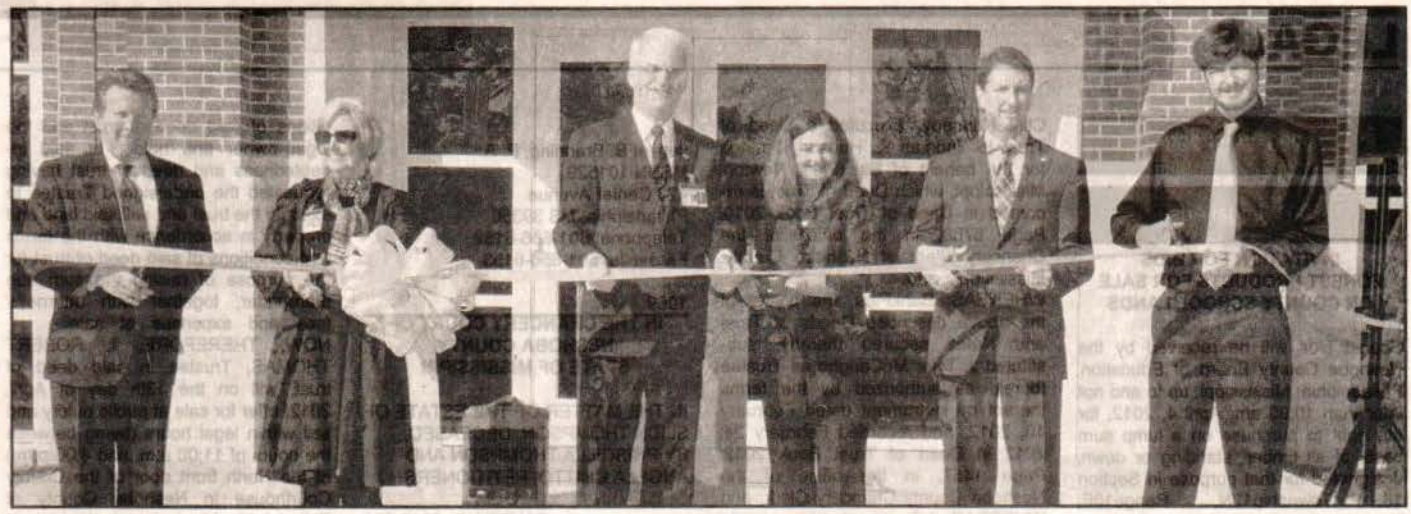
WEEK OF March 18, 2012



Cuts ribbon for new science building

East Central Community College officials are shown participating in a ribbon-cutting ceremony Tuesday, Feb. 14 to officially mark completion of the Aaron R. Davis Science Building on the Decatur campus. From left are Mickey Vance, Vice President for Business Operations; Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, Vice President for Instruction; Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCC President; biology instructor Mrs. Ron (Patti) Davis; Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth of Lake, ECCC Board of Trustees Chairman; and biology instructor Curt Skipper who also serves as division chairman. The $4.1 million facility is named in memory of Ron Davis, longtime biology instructor and division chairman who lost his battle with cancer in April 2006. The two-story facility includes state-of-the art laboratories for science students. State bond funds accumulated in recent years provided the financial resources to complete the much-anticipated addition to the ECCC campus. (EC Photo)

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ECCC offers 'local'

From press reports

Not only is shopping at home a great idea, but continuing one's education at a local community college also makes good sense!

Located in the heart of east central Mississippi, East Central Community College in Decatur is the perfect fit for students of all ages who want to continue their education in the academic, technical and career areas; improve or learn new job skills; or even receive a high school equivalency diploma!

Since its humble beginning in 1928 when 18 freshmen comprised the student body, East Central Community College has offered a quality education at an affordable cost.

Today, East Central offers coursework for more than 200 academic programs of study and guarantees those credits will transfer to the state's public four-year colleges and universities, according to an articulation agreement between the two-year schools and universities.

In addition to providing classes on the Decatur campus, East Central offers classes at various locations in the five-county district.

In Winston County, classes are held at the Winston/Louisville Career-Tech Complex and at Louisville High School.

East Central also provides an extensive list of technical and career programs on the Decatur campus.

Technical programs are offered in the following areas: Automotive, Computer Programming, Computer Networking, Microcomputer, Office Systems, Healthcare Data, Hotel Restaurant Management, Culinary Arts, Drafting and Design, Architectural Engineering, Land Surveying, Electrical, Heating and Air Conditioning, Collision Repair, Precision Machining and Early Childhood Education. Career programs include Cosmetology, Carpentry and Cabinetmaking, and Welding.

Reed

Rogers

Thousands of area citizens are also served through the College's Workforce Development Center and Adult Basic Education Department in the areas of workforce training, adult basic education and GED preparation.

To round out a student's college experience, East Central sponsors 10 intercollegiate athletic teams, various intramural activities, and more than 30 student organizations and clubs for varied interests.

"ECCC is a quality academic transfer institution that attracts students from throughout the state to its unique programs," said Dr. Randall E. Lee, Vice President for Student Services. "As with most of our sister community colleges, we fully serve our five-county district (Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties) and a high percentage of students from our area schools attending East Central is proof that we serve them well."

The College reported a record 2012 spring enrollment, as 2,665 students registered for classes. Of the total, approximately 300 students reside in Winston County.

Among students attending EC from Winston County are sophomores Raychal Reed and Tate Rogers, both of Louisville. Both students have received numerous honors and have participated in various campus activities.

Reed, who most recently was named to the 2012 All-Mississippi Academic Team and was selected a 2012 Coca-Cola Bronze Scholar, said she chose EC because the school was the "right fit for me."

"There was no question in making my decision to attend East Central Community College except how soon could I get there! I couldn't imagine choosing any other college upon graduating from high school. East Central is absolutely the fight fit for me. From the outstanding student body to the supportive

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education at an affordable cost

administration, faculty and staff, every aspect about the College goes above and beyond to uphold EC's motto, 'With You in Mind.' I have been blessed with so many opportunities here, and I'm so thankful that I chose to attend such a wonderful school. East Central Community College is truly like home to me. I only hope that one day I can give back to East Central as much as it has given to me."

Reed is a President's List Scholar and a member of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges. She also serves as co-editor of the Wo-He-Lo (yearbook) and is a staff writer on The Tom-Tom (newspaper) staff. Reed was selected Most Beautiful for 2011 and has served the past two years as a member of the Centralettes, the dance line for the Wall O' Sound Marching Band, and was co-captain for 2011-12. She was also named to Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges.

Reed, a 2010 honor graduate of Winston Academy, was also the recipient of numerous scholarships to attend ECCC.

She plans to continue her education at Mississippi State University in Starkville or the University of Mississippi in Oxford. Her goal is to become a physical therapist.

Her parents are Ray and Shelia Reed of Louisville.

Rogers said he chose EC "because it was close to home and many of my friends were coming here. All of my family went to EC as well and they enjoyed it and knew it was a good school. I also had heard from other people who attended EC and they enjoyed it, too. I also came here because I wanted to play football."

Rogers said he has "enjoyed" his two years at East Central and added:

"I've made many new

ECCC see page 6C

WEEK OF

friends who I will keep up with the rest of my life. I have gotten to play two more years of football and have also been well prepared to continue my education at a university and receive my degree."

Rogers was a two-year member of the Warrior football team and received second team MACJC All-State honors. He also served as team captain and earned the team's academic award.Rogers was selected Mr. ECCC for 2012

He is also a member of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa and participates in several campus activities. He was also selected for Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges.

Rogers is a 2010 honor graduate of Louisville High School and was a recipient of several scholarships to attend EC.

He plans to major in physical education at Mississippi State University in Starkville.

His parents are Don and Rebecca Rogers of Louisville.

ECCC's record enrollment is a further indication of the College's commitment to academic excellence offered at an affordable cost.

"East Central's continued growth is a reflection of a quality education and excellent employees who work hard at providing quality student services," said Dr. Lee, whose office coordinates the College's recruiting efforts. "It is amazing that the student body keeps growing despite a downward trend at most colleges!"

The College also offers the lowest tuition among the state's community and junior colleges, which currently stands at $895 per semester.

To accommodate its growth, East Central makes every effort to provide the most up-to-date facilities for student learning.

The most recent addition to the College's campus is the Aaron R. Davis Science Building, which was completed for the 2012 spring term. The two-story structure includes state-of-the lab facilities for science students and was constructed at a cost of $4.1 million. State bond funds accumulated in recent years provided the financial resources to complete the much-anticipated addition to the Decatur campus. A renovation of Cross Hall – where science classes continue to be held – is scheduled to begin this summer.

In addition to providing a quality learning environment for students, East Central continues to grow in the areas of technology and eLearning.

Gone are the days when students have to balance their class schedule with their work schedule. Now students have the option to take many classes completely online from the comfort of home.

During the past nine years, the number of East Central students taking classes online has increased almost 230 percent, according to Dr. Chris Jenkins, Dean of eLearning. Approximately 1,100 students are currently enrolled in online courses.

"The online program allows students to complete their class work when it is convenient, making work schedules easier to have and families easier to manage," said Dr. Jenkins.

East Central's commitment to technology is further evidenced by its new Student Information System, which allows students to employ social web-networking technology to interface with instructors, college administrative offices, campus organizations and more.

"This system makes registering for classes online and receiving up-to-the-minute college information much simpler and more personalized for individualized stu-

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WEEK OF April 8, 2012

New ECCC board of trustees members

East Central Community College President Dr. Phil Sutphin, left, and board chairman, Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth, right, recently welcomed new members to the school's board of trustees county superintendents of education, from left J. O. Amis, Newton; Tommy Dearing, Neshoba; Patrick Posey, Leake; and Bingham Moncrief, Scott. The county officials began their four-year terms in January.

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WEEK OF April 8, 2012

Dearing joins board

New Neshoba County Superintendent of Education Tommy Dearing, center, of Philadelphia was recently welcomed as a new member of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees. Dearing is shown with ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, left, and Board Chairman Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth of Lake prior to the board's March 20, meeting on the Decatur campus. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF April 15, 2012

Reception Planned May 6 for Retiring ECCC President

SUBMITTED TO THE TIMES

DECATUR — A reception honoring retiring East Central Community College President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, May 6, in the Associate Degree Nursing/Child Development Technology Building on the Decatur campus.

Sutphin

The facility will also officially be dedicated in his honor during a special presentation at 3 p.m.

The College's Board of Trustees voted unanimously to rename the facility the Phil A. Sutphin Associate Degree Nursing/Child Development Technology Building at the April 10, meeting, in recognition of Dr. Sutphin's years of loyal service to the College and his leadership in helping secure the nursing/childcare facility on the Decatur campus.

When he officially retires on June 30, 2012, Dr. Sutphin will have completed 12 years of services as ECCC's seventh president. He joined the ECCC staff in 1988 as Dean of Students and later served as Dean of Instruction. In all, Dr. Sutphin has provided 42 years of service in the field of education.

The public is cordially invited to attend the reception and special program.

ECCC serves Scott, Newton, Neshoba, Leake and Winston counties.

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ECCC's Dr. Betsy Mann selected top nursing school administrator

special to The Star

DECATUR – Dr. Betsy Mann, dean of healthcare education at East Central Community College in Decatur, was named Nursing School Administrator of the Year at the Seventh Annual Nightingale Awards Gala held recently at the Jackson Marriott.

Sponsored by the Mississippi Nurses Association and the Mississippi Nurses Foundation, the black-tie event highlights the achievements of outstanding nurses throughout the state who contribute significantly to the nursing profession, as well as those who support the work of nursing in a vital way.

Mann was recognized as "a mentor, role model, encourager and a true example of a nursing administrator."

The award also cites Dr. Mann "for her dedication to the success of East Central Community College's healthcare program."

Mann, who has led the college's healthcare program since 2007, said she is "very appreciative" of the award but more importantly she appreciates the recognition of ECCC's healthcare programs, which include associate degree nursing, practical nursing, surgical technology and EMT-Paramedic Technology.

"We have an outstanding healthcare faculty at East Central," said Mann, who served five years as associate degree nursing program instructor prior to beginning her tenure as dean of healthcare education.

"Our goal has always been to maintain the highest quality school of nursing program and produce well-trained nurses...and thanks to our instructors we feel that goal is met each year."

Mann also serves on numerous committees on the national and statewide levels and currently serves as a gubernatorial appointee on the Mississippi Board of Nursing as a Nurse Educator.

Submitted photo

Dr. Betsy Mann (right), dean of Healthcare Education at East Central Community College in Decatur, receives the 2012 School of Nursing Administrator of the Year award from Donna Pritchard, chief nurse executive and service line administrator for medicine at North Mississippi Medical Center. The award was presented at the recent Nightingale Awards Gala, which recognizes the achievements of the outstanding nurses throughout the state who contribute significantly to the nursing profession, as well as those who support the work of nursing in a vital way.

She is married to Dr. John Mann and they reside in Philadelphia.

In addition to Mann's award, ECCC's School of Nursing was nominated for top honors and associate degree nursing instructor Denita Thomas of Noxapater received a nomination for Nursing Faculty Member of the Year.

Thomas, who joined the ECCC faculty in 2008, was recently selected to succeed Mann as dean of healthcare education, effective July 1. Mann earlier announced her resignation to return to school and become a nurse practitioner.

"The recognition by peers and colleagues that comes with Nightingale Award nomination is considered a significant accomplishment and acknowledgement of success," said Dr. Debra West, executive director for programs and accountability for the Mississippi Community College Board.

"On behalf of all our colleagues and the MCCB, we extend heartfelt congratulations to East Central Community College for representing our system so well," West said.

Individuals and institutions for the annual Nightingale awards are nominated by their peers and colleagues. Nominations are then reviewed by a distinguished panel of out-of-state judges, all of whom have an experienced background in nursing or the healthcare industry. More than 100 nurses across the state were nominated in 18 award categories for the 2012 competition.

Marshall Ramsey, two-time Pulitzer Prize finalist, nationally syndicated editorial cartoonist for The Clarion-Ledger and host of "The Marshall Ramsey Show," served as emcee for this year's event.

Thomas selected Academic Instructor of the Year at ECCC

From press reports

Denita Thomas of Noxapater was recently selected "Academic Instructor of the Year" at East Central Community College, where she has been employed as an Associate Degree Nursing instructor since 2008 and was recently named Dean of Healthcare Education effective July 1, 2012.

Upon her selection, Thomas said, "I am honored to be named ECCC's Instructor of the Year. As a graduate of the College's first Associate Degree Nursing Program in 1996, it is with great pride that my path in life has lead me to return as an instructor in this outstanding program at My EC!"

Thomas has served in various capacities as an ADN instructor, including teaching in the classroom, supervising students in the hopital setting, assisting students with learning in the skills lab, advising students, serving as coordinator for the LPN to RN Bridge program and coordinating and teaching students in the simulation lab.

Her family has been the most influential on her career as she said they have always been encouraging and supportive. And it's assisting students as they learn that keeps her moytivated.

"As a nurse educator, I assist in preparing our future nurses to be knowledgeable, caring and professional," she said. "It is motivational to assist students in learning new information that helps open their minds and expand their knowledge base to prepare them to care for others. I enjoy being a part of the team of instructors at ECCC that helps prepare students to achieve their educational goals, which also helps our communitites."

In addition to serving as an instructor at ECCC, Thomas works as a family nurse practitioner with Quality Hospice in Philadelphia. Prior to her employment at the College, she served as a nurse practitioner with Neshoba Pediatric Medical Clinic in Philadelphia and Louisville Group Homes-Hudspeth Center of Louisville. She began her nursing career in 1996 with Magna Home Health of Philadelphia.

"I have enjoyed all of my nursing opportunities. Since becoming a registered nurse 15 years ago, I have worked in areas of home health and mental health. Since 2007, as a family nurse practitioner I have experience in areas of pediatrics, hospice and education. I enjoy working with patients and students," she added.

In addition to her associate's degree from East Central, Thomas holds the bachelor and master's degrees in nursing from the University of Southern Mississippi. She will complete the Mississippi Community College Leadership Academy in Jackson in May 2012.

She was awarded the Excellence Award from the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) this year.

She is a member of the Pulmonary Hypertension Association, Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, Mississippi Nurses Association, American Nurses Association, University of Southern Mississippi Alumni Association, East Central Community College Alumni Association and the East Central Community College Faculty Association.

Thomas is married to Sergeant Major John Thomas and they have two children: Alex, a sophomore at East Central, and Adam, a 5th grader at Winston Academy.

Thomas

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WEEK OF April 29, 2012

Former ECCC great Richard Harris inducted into MACJC Hall

ECCC Photo

East Central Community College alumnus Richard Harris (right) of Hickory is congratulated by ECCC athletic director Chris Harris following his induction into the Mississippi Community and Junior College Sports Hall of Fame at the 2012 ceremony held April 24 at the Hinds Community College Muse Center in Pearl. Richard Harris was a standout basketball player at Hickory High School, ECCC and Delta State University and followed his success on the hardwood as a high school coach, capturing five state titles and a winning percentage of more than .700. He led girls' squads to state titles at Hickory in 1963, 1964 and 1974 and at Decatur in 1990. His led the Newton County Academy boys' team to a 1997 state championship. Harris is also a member of the ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame, Mississippi Association of Coaches Hall of Fame and the DSU Alumni Coaches Hall of Fame. He is the recipient of numerous other coaching honors and awards. Harris is among the 15 members of the Sixth Class of the Mississippi Community and Junior College Sports Hall of Fame.

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WEEK OF April 29, 2012

COMMUNITY COLLEGE 'CAPITOL DAY'

Submitted photo

Representing East Central Community College in Decatur at the annual Community College Capitol Day at the Mississippi Legislature were, from left, students Jeffrey Hemphill of Louisville, Alex Chappell of Union, Carrie Rushing of Decatur, Antonio Nash of Carthage and Rachel Ramirez of Forest; and administration/faculty members Chris Harris of Decatur, Marc McCool of Louisville, Wanda Hurley of Union and Christy Ferguson of Philadelphia. More than 200 students, faculty and administrators of the 15 Mississippi community and junior colleges converged on the state Capitol to share their message about the colleges' needs with state leaders. The state's community and junior colleges continue to provide higher education and workforce training to thousands of Mississippians while at the same time grappling with low state appropriations

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Watching students succeed a

from school reports

Of all the accomplishments during Dr. Phil A. Sutphin's 12-year tenure as East Central Community College's seventh president, his fondest memory is a simple one: watching students graduate.

"Whether it is a commencement in May, a GED graduation ceremony or a healthcare pinning, the joy and sense of accomplishment is evident on all faces — students, families and faculty," said Sutphin. "After all, is that not the college's mission?"

Sutphin, who announced his retirement plans in November, will have completed 42 years in education when he officially steps down June 30.

After a rewarding career, Sutphin said it's time for change.

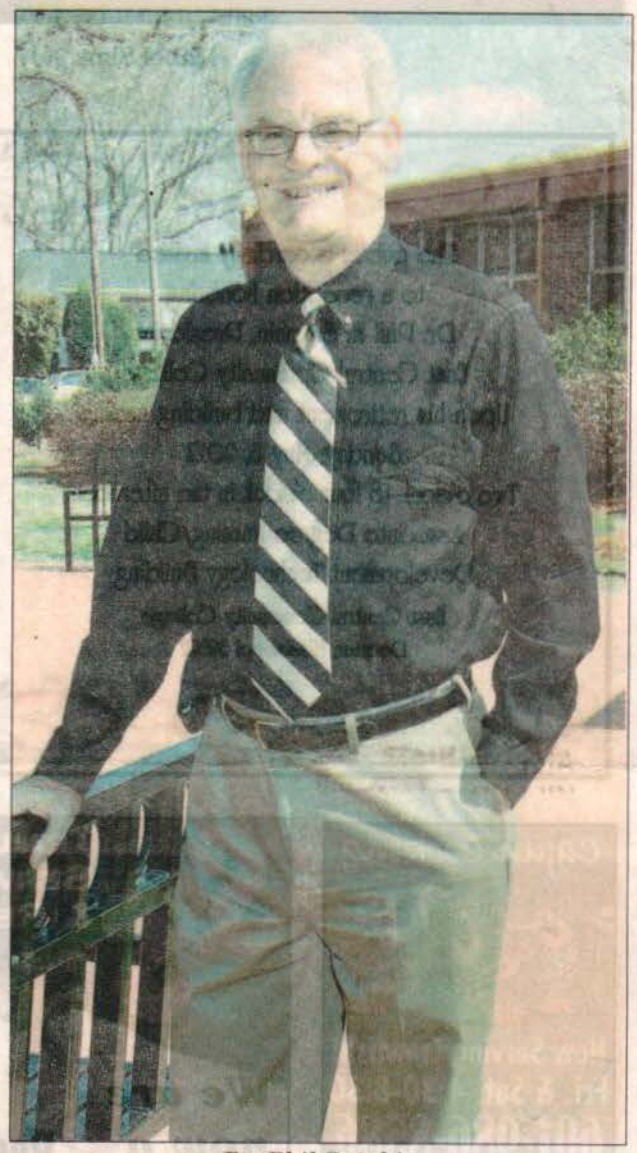
"I have been employed in education since 1970 and have had a wonderful career," said the Mathiston native.

"However, 42 years is enough. Significant change has occurred during my time in education and I have been fortunate to be a part of that change. Now it is time to do some of the things I have not been able to do because of a lack of time and resources."

In reflecting on his accomplishments as president, Sutphin said two things come immediately to mind:

"The college is financially sound and the physical appearance of the campus has changed," he said.

"Financially, the college has weathered the worst financial environment since the Great Depression and yet EC has continued to grow and provide quality service."



Dr. Phil Sutphin

"Physically, new facilities and additions to the grounds have made the campus more aesthetically pleasing and student friendly."

Sutphin's accomplishments as EC's leader are numerous.

In the area of instruction, new computer/technology upgrades were implemented; online instruction was made available through the Mississippi Virtual Community College; and new healthcare education programs as well as Hotel and Restaurant Management Technology and Culinary Arts Technology were added to the curriculum.

Culinary classes recently moved from the maintenance facility to its new location in the Rives Building on South campus.

Campus additions and improvements include completion of Phase 2 of the Eddie M. Smith Student Union Building; renovation and landscaping of the area known as the "East Mall," near Mabry Memorial Cafeteria; return of the old National Guard Armory Building to ECCC and named in memory of longtime physical plant director, Clinton F. Russell; completion of campus beautification project including Day Family Arboretum and landscaping; paving of the walking trail around the college lake for college and community use; various improvements to athletic facilities; and construction of new parking lots, street and sidewalk projects and installation of new street lamps at various campus locations.

The most recent addition to the campus includes completion of the Aaron R. Davis Science Building, which opened for lab instruction at the beginning of the 2012 spring term. Renovation of Cross Hall — where science classes continue to be held — is scheduled to begin in June 2012.

Sutphin also initiated the Founders' Gym Renovation Project, which is currently under way.

Plans are to modernize the structure to include administrative offices while maintaining the historic significance of the beloved facility, where many of the college's most outstanding basketball players made their mark at EC.

Enrollment increased during Sutphin's tenure and reached a record 3,223 students in the 2011 fall semester. Increased scholarships and endowments are also noted accomplishments.

Community service has also been a part of Sutphin's agenda, as evidenced by his participation with Habitat for Humanity and the Decatur Planning Board,

highlight for Sutphin

and through his involvement on several boards of directors.

When asked what he will miss the most when he retires from EC, Sutphin replied:

"Watching students grow as adults. To watch the apprehensive freshman mature and grow into the competent graduate is a real joy that I will miss."

In looking toward retirement, Sutphin said he anticipates "learning about the world and all of the many unique cultures that express who we are as humans."

He and his wife, Peggy, who is also retiring as a longtime educator, have already planned travels to various interesting places around the world.

And where does he see himself in 10 years?

"Still looking for interesting places to go," he

WEEK OF May 13, 2012

Dunkerson scholarship established at ECCC

Family and friends of Kyle Dunkerson have established a scholarship in his memory at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Dunkerson was a student at ECCC when he lost his life in an automobile accident on Oct. 6, 2011.

He was a member of the 2010 Warrior soccer team. He enjoyed riding horses, fishing, hunting, playing "catch" with his brother, Zac, and playing golf. He also enjoyed hanging out with friends and family, and riding around in his jeep. He was an active member of Clarke-Venable Baptist Church.

Dunkerson was described as someone "whose smile and personality were larger than life; his smile could brighten anyone's day. Kyle lived his life to the fullest and enjoyed every minute."

He was a graduate of Newton County High School, where he was a member of soccer and football teams.

He was the son of Angela and Jody Kyzar of Decatur, and Carrie Dunkerson of Alabama.

To be considered for the Kyle Dunkerson Memorial Scholarship, candidates must be an incoming freshman; have a 2.0 to 2.9 grade point average; enrolled as a full-time time student at ECCC; be a resident of Newton County; and have a strong interest in the outdoors and riding horses. First priority for the scholarship will be given to a graduate of Newton County High School.

The ECCC Scholarship Committee will select the scholarship recipient annually after applications have been reviewed by the Kyzar family.

For more information, contact ECCC Student Services, 601-635-6205 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 205.

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WEEK OF May 20, 2012

ECCC RETIREES HONORED

Submitted photo

These East Central Community College retirees received special recognition at the College's annual end-of-the-year luncheon held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus. They are shown displaying framed resolutions commemorating their years of service to ECCC and the field of education. They were also presented various gifts. From left are Thomas W. Carson, director of bands; Haywood Reeves, math instructor; Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, College president; and Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, vice president for instruction. Carson has served 30 years as director of bands and held the position of Fine Arts Division Chairman since 2009. He resigned as division chairman in 2012 to continue his battle with cancer. Reeves has logged 44 years service in the field of education, the last 14 at ECCC. Dr. Sutphin is completing 12 years as ECCC President and 24 years on the College staff, having previously served as dean of students and dean of instruction. In all, he has served 42 years in the field of education. Dr. Sparkman began her tenure at ECCC in 2000 and has provided 27 years of service in education.

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WEEK OF May 20, 2012

Fortenberry named Career-Technical Instructor of the Year at EC

from school reports

Thomas Fortenberry of Union was recently selected Career-Technical Instructor of the Year for 2011-12 at East Central Community College, where he has been employed as a Computer Network Technology instructor since 1998.

Upon his selection, Fortenberry said, "I am extremely humbled by being selected as one of EC's Instructors of the Year. First, the recognition is due to the success and hard work of my students."

"When my students succeed, so do I. Yet the flip side of that is when they fall short of the mark, so do I. Secondly, the recognition is due to the support and friendship of each person employed with EC. Without each of us performing the role that we agreed to perform, none of us would have any success."

Fortenberry, who teaches courses such as Network Design and Network Operating Systems, said he originally never thought about a career in education.

"I first came to EC to be over the Data Management Department (currently known as Information Management)," Fortenberry said. "I was able to get along with everyone in the department most days, since I was the only one in the department."

"I left EC after seven years to do some consulting work.Two years later, I returned to EC as an instructor for the new Computer Network Technology program," he said.

"It really felt like I was coming home. I had never thought about a career as an instructor, however, God directs our steps and we have the most peace and fulfillment in our lives when we surrender to His leadership," he said.

Thomas Fortenberry

"Any success or accolades that we may receive along the way are the blessings for being obedient to Him."

Seeing his students succeed is what Fortenberry said matters the most to him as an educator.

"For me, as an instructor, the greatest highlights of my career are when former students are successful," he said.

"When a student that was considered 'special ed' in high school takes the GED to gain entrance to EC then graduates from the networking program and continues his education until he graduates from USM — that is a career highlight," Fortenberry said.

"When my students compete nationally against students from other community colleges and universities and place first nationally in their event — that is a career highlight for me. That is why God placed me here."

Fortenberry said he enjoys the interaction with students the most regarding his day-to-day work.

"I truly enjoy the interaction with the students each day. Watching them learn and grow. Seeing them take one step after another on their way to their goal. Knowing that God allowed me to be a small part of that process is what I like most about being in the field of education."

Outside of the classroom, Fortenberry can be found behind a pulpit at New Ireland Baptist Church as pastor.

"God directs our steps and we have the most peace and fulfillment in our lives when we surrender to his leadership. A couple of years ago I felt the Lord leading me into his ministry. I said that I never thought about being an instructor, I certainly never ever thought about being a pastor. Yet today, I am doing two things that I never thought I would or could do, but I have more peace and blessings in my life than I have ever had before."

In addition to his associate's degrees from East Central and Meridian Community colleges, Fortenberry holds a bachelor's degree in Technical Occupational Education from the University of Southern Mississippi.

Fortenberry is married to his wife of 25 years, the former Pam Copeland of Philadelphia.

They have two children: Amanda, 23, who is completing her master's degree at Mississippi College; and Tanner, 19, a freshman at East Central.

APPEARED IN
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NEWTON C
SPIRIT OF
MERIDIAN

WEEK OF May 27, 2012

ECCC announces tuition increase

A slight increase in tuition was recently approved for students planning to attend fall classes at East Central Community College in Decatur.

The ECCC Board of Trustees approved a five percent tuition hike at its May 8, 2012, meeting. Tuition is now set at $940 per semester, compared to the current rate of $895 per semester.

The new rate is expected to generate approximately $200,000 a year, according to retiring ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, who said the additional revenue is needed due to a decrease in state appropriations the past several years and the increasing costs to operate the two-year college, which experienced a record enrollment of 3,223 students last fall.

"East Central has not adjusted tuition and fees since 2009, while inflation and state budget cuts or level funding have reduced our ability to cover the costs of providing educational opportunities for our students," said Dr. Sutphin. "As much as we have resisted increases in the past few years, we must now do something to continue our programs and improve facilities at the level that is expected of us. Even with the tuition increase, cost to attend EC is lower than most of the other community colleges in the state and much less than public and private four-year colleges and universities."

Dr. Sutphin said all other fees at the College will remain the same for the 2012-13 school year.

New and transfer students planning to attend EC this fall have four orientation sessions from which to choose: Saturday, June 2; Friday, June 22; Friday, July 13; and Friday, Aug. 3.

Fall classes begin Thursday, Aug. 16.

For more information, contact Student Services, 601-635-6205 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 205. The e-mail address is rlee@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF May 27, 2012

APPEARED IN
CARTHAGE DEMOCRAT
NEWTON COUNTY TIMES
SPIRIT OF NEWTON COUNTY JOURNAL
MERIDIAN STAR-LEDGER

ECCC hands out awards

Recipients of Hall of Fame and other honors were recognized during the annual Awards Day program held May 3, at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Those receiving special awards were Shelby Powell of Meridian, Richard Fisher Organic Chemistry; Judson Bounds of Newton, S. Lebrun Hutchison; Benjamin Prestage of Carthage, freshman mathematics and Margaret Mosal for Leadership awards; Tyler Reeves of Decatur, sophomore mathematics; Dorothy Chapman of Lake, co-recipient of Mississippi Business Education Association award; Christina Nollie of Carthage, co-recipient of Mississippi Business Education Association and recipient of The Tom-Tom awards;

Bobbi Schwebel of Philadelphia, Myrtle R. Hutchison Elementary Education; Allison Perry of Philadelphia, Alyne Simmons Recruitment Grant; Nikki Cumberland of Lena and Tyler Reeves of Decatur, Roy Pete Awards for Soccer; Andrew Hanna of Union, secondary education; and Kelsey Tadlock of Decatur, Lucille Wood Scholarship.

Alumni Memorial Awards were presented to Nikki Cumberland of Decatur, Arno Vincent Award for Academic Excellence in Athletics; Miguel Megrano of Gonzales, La., Billy Wayne Baucum Secondary Education Award; Megan Dollar of Union, Ruth Carr-Vincent Award for Academic Excellence in Nontraditional Education; Tarra Gibson of Bailey, Opal McMullan Dickerson Elementary Education; Ashley Moore of Carthage, Alatha Chaney English; James Cumberland of Union, W. A. Coursey, Jr., Engineering; Dustin Cullen of Carthage, Danny Ray Killens Engineering; Cindy Burnside of Decatur, Sara Carr Deaton Business Technology;

Kyle Henson of Weir, Sue Yarbrough Fulgham Speech; Shelby Powell of Meridian, Jack B. Mayo Phi Theta Kappa; Frederick Davis of Jackson, William S. Giffin Men's Intramural; Truitt Kilgore of Philadelphia, Homer F. Hunter Award for Athletic Managers; Tate Rogers of Louisville, Andrew F. Webb Football; Jackson Therrien of Newton, Howard Sessums Men's Basketball; Inessa Adams of Horn Lake, Earline Wood Women's Basketball; and Rachel Sharp of Sturgis, Dr. Edwin Miller Medical Services Award.

Faculty Memorial Awards were presented to Janet Ethridge of Decatur, Aaron R. Davis Memorial; Andrew Hanna of Union, Frank Edwin and Nena Holt Leatherwood Biology Science and Frank M. Cross Freshman Chemistry awards; Evan Humphries of Louisville, Jamie Clark Memorial Award for Baseball; Megan Dollar of Union, J. Wallace Bedwell Business; Jeremy Carson of Decatur, Robert G. Fick Memorial; Donald E. Pendergrass of Philadelphia, Shelby L. Harris Memorial; Ashley Moore of Carthage and Raychal Reed of Louisville, co-recipients of the Ruth Hull Wo-He-Lo award; Tyler Gilmore of Union, J. Andy Miller Freshman Engineering; Chris Morgan of Hickory, O.L. Newell Drafting; Susan Tillmon of Decatur, Charles E. Pennington Business Technology; Jeremy Carson of Decatur, Leon Eubanks Kaljyc-Peers; Cane Phillips of Forest, L.B. Simmons History; Allyson Loper of Philadelphia, General William Patrick Wilson General Academic scholarship; and Alexander Lee, Thomas W. Thrash Memorial.

WEEK OF May 27, 2012

Resolutions presented

Dr. Phil A. Sutphin (center) was presented resolutions of commendation from the Mississippi Senate and Mississippi House of Representatives in recognition of his service as East Central Community College's president as part of activities held Sunday, May 6 on the Decatur campus. Shown making the presentation to the retiring ECCC president are (from left) State Senator Giles Ward of Louisville and State Representatives Scott Bounds of Philadelphia, Tom Miles of Forest and Randy Rushing of Decatur. The special program was held at the Associate Degree Nursing/Child Development Technology Building, which was officially named and dedicated in Dr. Sutphin's honor as declared by ECCC Board of Trustees Chairman Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth of Lake. The ECCC Board of Trustees voted unanimously to rename the facility at the April 2012 meeting, "in recognition of Dr. Sutphin's years of loyal service to the College and his leadership in helping secure the nursing/childcare programs on the Decatur campus."

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

Coaches Changes at ECCC

Several coaching change are made at East Central Community College

Reporter: ECCC Public Relations

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Several coaching changes were approved at East Central Community College in Decatur following the June 12 meeting of the College's Board of Trustees, announced ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

Scott Hill, who has served as fast-pitch softball head coach and director of intramurals since 2003, has stepped down to become a full-time faculty member at the College. Kristin Chaney, Hill's assistant the past four years and one of his former players, was selected as his successor.

The Lady Warrior basketball program is also undergoing a change in leadership.

Bill Smith has retired to pursue other opportunities, which may possibly include coaching on a different level.

Hill, 43, is one of the most successful coaches at East Central. His overall record is 308-123-1 and includes the program's first Region 23 Tournament title in 2010 and the first MACJC State Tournament championship in 2011.

The 2010 squad placed fourth in the NJCAA Division II National Women's Softball Championship en route to a record 47 victories with just 11 losses and one tie. The same squad was recognized as the NJCAA Academic Softball Team of the Year by posting a 3.69 grade point average. Hill was named Region 23 Softball Coach of the Year following the successful campaign.

Hill's 2011 team placed fifth in the national competition and finished 37-15. The talented squad also received NJCAA Softball Academic Team of the Year honors with another 3.69 grade point average. He received Region 23 Softball Coach of the Year honors in recognition of his team's success.

Prior to capturing region and state titles, Hill's teams reeled off three straight MACJC Central Division titles, when the league was divided into three areas of competition prior to the current setup of North and South divisions.

Hill has "mixed feelings" about stepping down, but said a desire to spend more time with his family was a main reason for the change.

"I feel very blessed to have had the opportunity to coach softball here at East Central," Hill said. "It has been a wonderful experience not only for me but for my family as well. I am sad because there is so much that I will miss, but having the chance to spend a little more time with my family is something I know I will cherish. I look forward to assuming this new role as fulltime instructor which will continue to give me the chance to help young people at a place that is so dear to me."

Hill added, "I have had the great fortune to have had many fine young ladies to come through this program that definitely made it what it is today. I will always be so grateful for their many sacrifices on and off the field. It is very satisfying to see them start a career and a family...and know that we might have had some very small part in helping them along the way. I don't hesitate to recognize the huge impact they have had on my life."

Hill said he is "very pleased" that the Board of Trustees approved Chaney as his successor.

"It is reassuring to have someone the caliber of Kristin Chaney to step in and take over this program," Hill stated. "In my nine years here as head softball coach, Coach Chaney has been with me for six of those years, two as a player and four as a coach. There is no way to measure just how important she has been to me and the Lady Warrior softball program. She is truly ready for this opportunity and I am so excited for her."

Chaney, 26, who is recognized as the College's only two-sport NJCAA All-American (softball/basketball), said following in Hill's footsteps makes the opportunity to serve as Lady Diamond Warrior coach "even more special."

"First and foremost, I want to thank Coach Hill for everything he has done for the softball program at East Central. He truly has bettered the program with the renovations to the field as well as bringing the first ever championship to the program. I would not be able to be in this position without him and will forever be grateful for everything he has done for this program as well as for me," Chaney said.

The new Lady Diamond Warrior head coach said she looks forward to continuing the program's success.

"I am excited to step in to this role as head coach," she said. "I love East Central from the bottom of my heart. I will forever bleed black and gold. This is a special time for me and I cannot begin to express my excitement. I only hope to build on the rich tradition here."

Prior to joining the ECCC staff in 2008, Chaney attended the University of Southern Mississippi, where she received master and bachelor's degrees in sports administration. She was also a standout member of the Lady Eagle basketball team, receiving most valuable player honors following the 2005-06 and 2006-07 seasons. In addition, she received the Female

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Student of the Year and Lady Eagle Award in 2006-07. She was also a member of the 2006-07 and 2007-08 Lady Eagle softball teams.

Chaney is a 2005 honor graduate of ECCC and a Hall of Fame member. In addition to receiving NJCAA All-American honors in softball and basketball, she was selected an NJCAA Academic All-American and finished second in the NJCAA Female Athlete of the Year competition.

She helped lead the 2004 and 2005 fast-pitch softball teams to MACJC Central Division championships en route to records of 26-14 and 34-5, respectively. Following the 2004 campaign, Chaney was one of only three freshmen and the only Mississippian selected second team NJCAA American. She received All-Region 23, MACJC All-State and MACJC All-Central Division honors following both seasons. In addition, she was selected the Lady Diamond Warriors' most valuable player in 2004 and received most valuable offensive and most valuable defensive player awards in 2005.

Chaney is a product of Newton County High School.

Bill Smith began his employment at East Central in 2001 as men's head basketball coach. He led the squad for four years and compiled an overall 42-66 mark, which included a berth in the MACJC and Region 23 tournaments in 2002-03.

Smith, 51, took over the Lady Warrior program in 2005 and reeled off six consecutive winning seasons, including a Region 23 championship in 2007-08 and a berth in the NJCAA Women's Basketball Championship en route to a 22-8 record.

The past two seasons the Lady Warriors dipped to 8-15 records but the 2011-12 squad overcame a 0-11 start by winning eight of the following nine contests and finished the season as the South Division's No. 4 seed with a 7-5 division mark. EC advanced to the MACJC State Basketball Tournament but fell to host Itawamba in first-round action.

His overall record as women's head coach is 101-79.

"I've enjoyed my 11 years here," Smith said. "I just felt like it was time to retire and pursue some other job opportunities. I really enjoyed my time here...both with the men's and women's teams. I'm looking forward to a new challenge and a new chapter in my life."

Smith said the highlight of his tenure was the 2007-08 season, when the Lady Warriors captured the Region 23 championship and advanced to the national tournament.

"I thought that was a great accomplishment for a special group of girls," Smith said of the championship season.

Smith came to East Central from Neshoba Central High School, where he successfully led the girls' basketball program for 16 years. His teams posted an overall record of 388 wins and 151 losses, which include a state championship and six division titles.

The College is currently advertising for a new women's head basketball coach.

Applications will be received by Athletic Director Chris Harris through Friday, June 29. The position opening announcement is available on the College Web site, www.eccc.edu.

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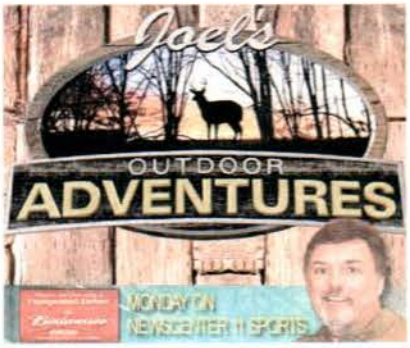

Hill steps down as coach

7,2012

East Central CC announces multiple coaching changes

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR — Several coaching changes were approved at East Central Community College in Decatur following the June 12 meeting of the College's Board of Trustees, announced ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

Scott Hill, a Forest native who has served as fast-pitch softball head coach and director of intramurals since 2003, has stepped down to become a full-time faculty member at the College.

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Hill had "mixed feelings" about stepping down, but said a desire to

ECCC PHOTO

Scott Hill, a native of Forest, stepped down as head coach of the Lady Warrior fast-pitch softball team.

"I feel very blessed to have had the opportunity to coach softball here at East Central," Hill said. "It has been a wonderful experience not only for me but for my family as well. I am sad because there is so much that I will miss, but having the chance to spend a little more time with my family is something I know I will cherish. I look forward to assuming this new role as fulltime instructor which will continue to give me the chance to help young people at a place that is so dear to me."

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"It is very satisfying to see them start a career and a family....and know that we might have had some very small part in helping them along the way. I don't hesitate to recognize the huge impact they have had on my life."

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"First and foremost, I want to thank Coach Hill for everything he has done for the softball program at East Central. He truly has bettered the program with the renovations to the field as well as bringing the first ever championship to the program," she said. "I would not be able to be in this position without him and will forever be grateful for everything he has done for this program as well as for me," Chaney said.

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WEEK OF June 17, 2012

SHOBA DEMOCRAT
OTT COUNTY TIMES
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ARION-LEDGER

Coats turns lessons into Hall of Fame career

By Alan Hinton
The Hattiesburg American

It took Willie "Tennie" Coats about a quarter-second to respond to the question of what was the main factor in his coaching football teams to 181 victories.

He said his success came from lessons learned from others.

"I had a great high school coach and had great college coaches," Coats said. "My high school coach was K.C. McKee, who later became a principal and superintendent. He never played a high school football game in his life, but he learned the basic fundamentals and stayed with them. He believed in fundamentals, discipline, and hard work. He won in everything."

After starting, and starring, in football, baseball, and basketball at Stonewall High School (near Quitman) for four seasons, Coats went on to play football as a quarterback and free safety and baseball as a middle infielder at Mississippi Southern College (now the University of Southern Mississippi), where he learned under the tutelage of other outstanding coaches and played football for the 1958 UPI college division national championship team.

Coats

"Pie Vann is in the national Hall of Fame, Heifer Stuart coached baseball and was an assistant in football, Pete Taylor and Roland Dale coached me. My coaches were one reason for my coaching success," Coats said.

That success has earned Coats, a retired coach at East Central Community College, Decatur High School, Hattiesburg High School, Pearl River Community College, and a number of other places, a spot in the Mississippi Association of Coaches Hall of Fame. He will be inducted Friday at the Jackson Hilton.

Coats made his name in football — at stops in Clara, Seminary, Lumberton, East Central, Decatur, Quitman, Delta State, Hattiesburg, Pearl River, ECCC for a second stint, the Mississippi Pride professional team, Choctaw Central, and Newton County Academy.

Coats, who was named all-state in 1954 and played in the 1955 Mississippi high school all-star football game, has an overall football coaching record of 181-108-1. He also coached baseball at ECCC.

He has one son (Timmy) who is a football coach at Morton and another (Stan) who is in the Mississippi National Guard. He also has two daughters — Patti Coats Ezell (a second grade teacher at Newton County Elementary School) and Kristi Coats. At one point, Kristi played on the LPGA Tour after a successful collegiate career at LSU.

"My dad loved baseball, loved it deeply," Coats said. "I got into sports and had a little talent and my dad and coaches developed it. I was like a pig in slop, I couldn't get enough of it.

"I always knew I wanted to be a player or a coach. I love to compete."

Ironically, even though Coats is known for his football knowledge and skills, he could have easily turned to another sport.

"Harry Hickman of Hattiesburg was a scout with the Chicago Cubs, and he saw me play at Southern and semi-pro," Coats said. "So I signed a professional baseball contract with

See **Coats** on page B2

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COATS from page B1

the Chicago Cubs and played one year of pro ball."

Did pretty good, too. Coats led his rookie league in stolen bases with 32 in the 90-game season, and batted .280.

But he returned to Mississippi Southern to get his degree and began coaching at Clara High School — as its basketball coach.

He also was an assistant football coach, and soon afterwards, got his first head football coaching job, at Seminary in 1963. In 1965, he was named Coach of the Year for the Apache Conference.

"We were 1-9 that first year and either 7-3 or 8-2 the second," he said.

A few years, and a few stops, later, Coats was coaching in Decatur. By then, his sons were playing for the Warriors. And the 1978 team went undefeated and was ranked No. 1 in the state by the *Jackson Clarion-Ledger*.

"That was equal to a state championship now," Coats said, adding that there were no playoffs in those days.

He moved on to Delta State as an assistant football coach, and took the Hattiesburg High head coaching position in 1984, staying through the 1990 season.

In 1989, the Tigers went undefeated in the regular season, were ranked No. 1 in the state and won the South State championship before losing 24-21 to West Point in the Class 5A state championship game.

Then it was on to Pearl River. His 1992 team went 10-1, won the MACJC South State title and was ranked No. 7 nationally before losing in the state championship game.

After Pearl River came a three-year stint at East Central Community College beginning in 1995.

"We lost our first eight games and won the last two that first season," Coats said. "The next year, we went 10-1. We won 19 of our last 23 games there."

The 1996 East Central team went 10-1, was ranked No. 5 in the nation, and won the Huddle House Golden Isles Bowl in Brunswick, Ga., with a 7-6 victory against Middle Georgia College. Coats was named Mississippi's coach of the year.

"The first time I coached was in September 1960 as an assistant at Clara," Coats said "We played bigger, tougher Waynesboro, and Waynesboro beat us. After that game, I was totally exhausted. I thought, 'Man, I'm tireder than when I played. It was like a two-hour boxing match."

But it was competition, and that's another thing that got Coats where he is today.

"I still love to compete," said Coats, who turned 76 this spring. "I recently shot my age in golf. I always enjoyed the competition, trying to beat the other guy.

"I am so thankful I was able to enjoy making a living at it. I had a great bunch of assistant coaches and players. I hope in a small way I've been a great influence on kids the same way my coaches were an influence on me."

Coats was previously selected to the ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame in 1999 and the USM Athletic Hall of Fame in 2001.

Coats lives in Petal, not surprisingly very near Twin Pines Country Club.

Newton County Appeal sports editor Marty Stamper contributed to this report.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF June 24, 2012

Renovations at EC to begin soon

East Central Community College in Decatur held groundbreaking ceremonies June 12 to begin renovations of Cross Hall Science Building, originally constructed in 1961 to house biological and chemical sciences. Taking part in the special ceremony were (from left) ECCC Board of Trustees officers Jerry Smith (vice chairman) of Philadelphia, Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth (chairman) of Lake and Royce Shaw (secretary) of Forest; Curt Skipper, chairman of the Science Division; and ECCC President Phil Sutphin. The construction project is expected to be complete by summer 2013 at an estimated cost of $3 million. Upgrades include state-of-the-art classrooms with multi-media projection capabilities as well as LED lighting and an energy efficient heating and cooling system. During his remarks, Sutphin said "Enrollment growth at the college has exceeded the capacity of the current facility. These renovations will handle the current students, plus allow us to expand in the future."

APPEARED IN:

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

Moodys striving to meet 'Special Needs' with ECCC Scholarship

From press reports

Their experience in raising a developmentally challenged son gave Bobby and Ann Moody of Louisville the insight into the impact that special education can have in determining quality of life, productivity, and maximum independence for special needs students.

"Because of our son, Robert, we recognized the importance in training teachers to work with children with special needs to make sure that these students have every opportunity to become productive citizens," said Ann.

To assist in that training, the Moodys, in 2010, established the Robert J. Moody, Jr., Special Education Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur, which is presented each year to a sophomore from Winston County, who is pursuing a degree with an emphasis in special education.

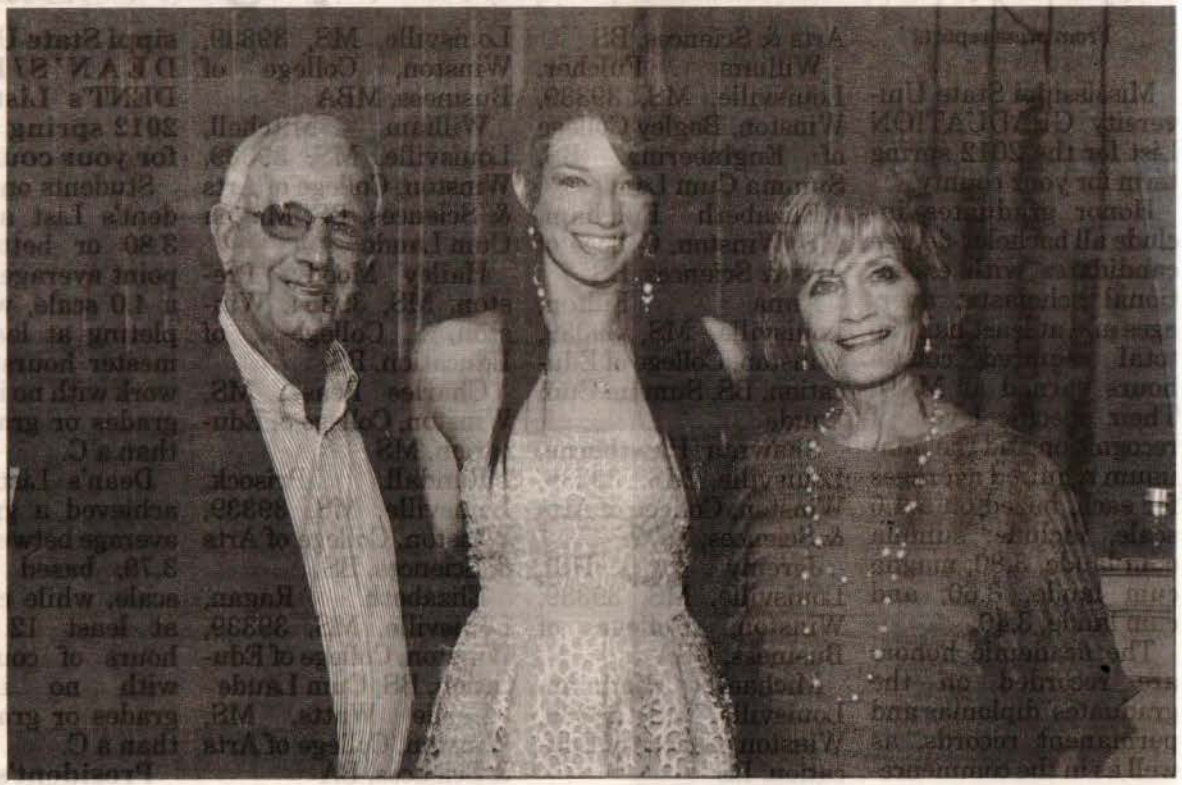
The scholarship is named in honor of Robert Jackson Moody, Jr. Robert was born on February 24, 1965 with no apparent problems but at age two-and-a-half, he started having severe, uncontrollable seizures. These seizures, along with other complications, eventually caused brain damage that left him developmentally challenged in many ways.

He was eventually able to navigate through the Mississippi public education system to receive a certificate of attendance in May 1984 and after residing in several area group homes has gained his independence and full-time employment.

"Desiring independence for himself, Robert became the first residence at The Mustard Seed, Inc., a privately run group home in Flowood, in 1986," Ann said. "He resided there and worked at the sheltered workshop for approximately six years before moving to a Hudspeth Center group home in Meridian. While there, Robert gained employment with Wal-Mart in their garden center. He currently resides in the Louisville Group Home also run by the Huspeth Center. He transferred to the Louisville Wal-Mart and continues to work there as a door greeter."

Ann added, "Physically closer to his family, Robert is now able to interact with hometown family and friends regularly and attend his 'home' church, Good Hope Baptist, on a weekly basis. He continues to receive life skills and educational training through teachers and other workers at the Hudspeth Center facility. He is loved and inspired by all that know him."

Before establishing the scholarship, Robert J. (Bobby) Moody, Sr. served in the Mississippi House of Representatives from 1984 to 2002. As a freshman member of the education committee, he was able to get an emphasis placed on adequate education for special needs students. Also, as the Chairman of Public Health and Welfare for 12 years and as subcommittee chairman of appropriations for mental health and vocational rehabilitation, he was instrumental in pushing through and funding legislation to create more than 50 group homes and sheltered workshops strategically located throughout the state of Mississippi. He was also instrumental in creating a job coach program to assist training special needs adults to work in the private sector.



Marler Receives Moody Scholarship

East Central Community College sophomore Emily Marler (second from left), a graduate of Morton High School, is the recipient of the Robert J. Moody, Jr. Special Education Scholarship. Pictured with the recipient are Bobby and Ann Moody of Louisville, who established the scholarship in honor of their son. The award was presented during the annual AT&T Scholarship Awards Program held June 8 in Huff Auditorium and followed by a luncheon in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. During the 2012 event, 136 students received 111 endowed or annual scholarships totaling approximately $74,000 in value. (EC Photo)

The Moodys hope that recipients of the scholarship will continue the legacy they have begun.

"Our advice to scholarship recipients is to be prepared for the heartaches that go along with serving special needs individuals, but also anticipate immeasurable rewards.

We hope that they (the scholarship recipients) will continue the legacy we have begun to facilitate the productivity and self-worth of developmentally challenged individuals," Bobby said. "We appreciate East Central Community College's assistance in allowing us, through them, to encourage students to consider the opportunities and rewards of special education."

The 2012 recipient of the Robert J. Moody, Jr., Special Education Scholarship is Emily Marler, a graduate of Morton High School.

Faculty/Administration

Week of July 8, 2012

Ryals hired at ECCC

Laura Ryals was recently selected Assistant Dean of Admission, Records and Research at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Ryals, a Decatur resident, previously served as an Admissions Assistant II at Mississippi State University in Starkville, a post she held from December 2008 to September 2011.

She served the previous three years as an Office Assistant at MSU.

A 2004 graduate of Newton County High School, Ryals received an Associate of Applied Science degree in Drafting and Design Technology from ECCC in May 2006.

She earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in Risk Management, Insurance and Financial Planning from MSU in December 2008.

In addition, she has completed continuing education courses in Office Systems Technology at East Mississippi Community College's Mayhew campus.

She is married to Chris Ryals, ECCC Drafting and Design Technology instructor. They have an infant daughter, Alyssa Cate Ryals.

Appeared in:

Carthaginian_____

Newton County Appeal ✓

Spirit of Morton_____

Meridian Star_____

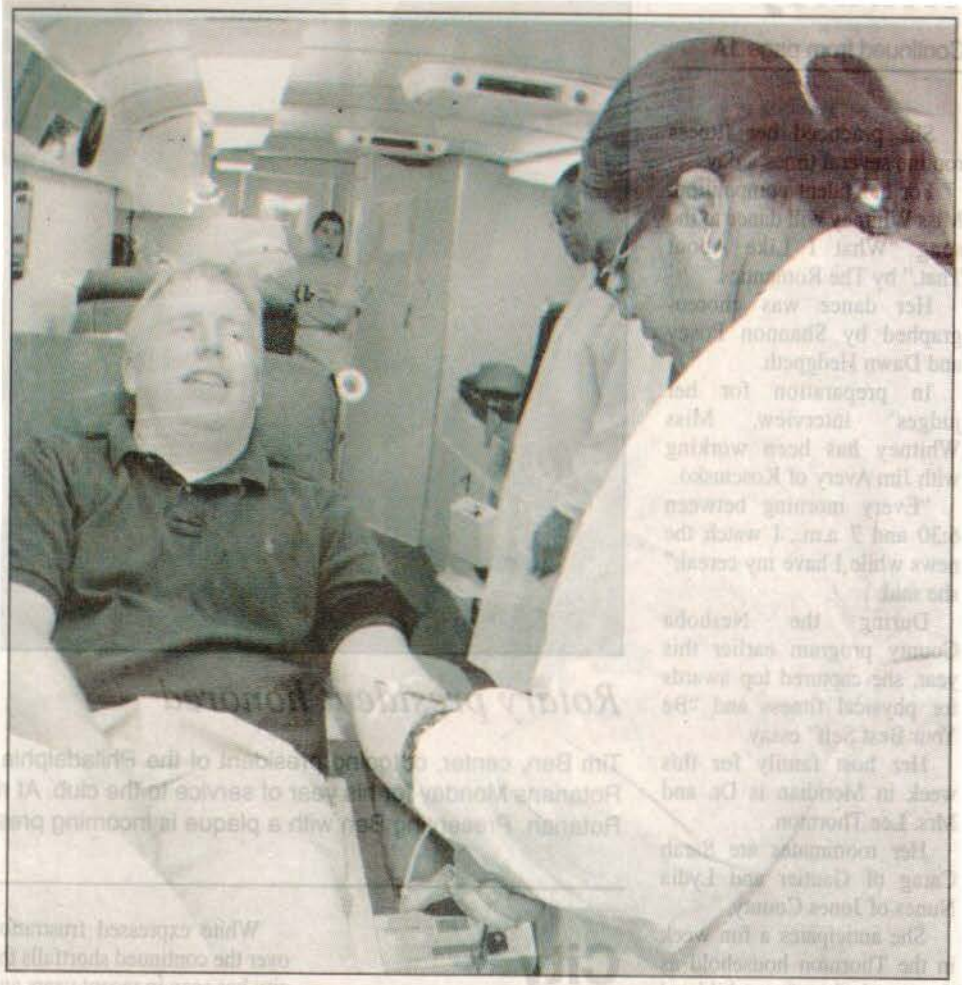
Neshoba Democrat_____

Scott County Times_____

Winston County Journal____

Clarion-Ledger_____

WEEK OF July 15, 2012



ECCC faculty and students donate blood

Faculty and students of East Central Community College in Decatur donated blood during a mobile blood drive held on Tuesday, July 10. United Blood Services technician Von Parker of Quitman assists ECCC staff member Joseph Knight of House while he makes a donation. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF July 15, 2012

Watson named instructor

April R. Watson of Meridian was recently selected "Warrior Path to Success" instructor at East Central Community College in Decatur. The new position is part of ECCC's First Year Experience initiative designed to assist students with various aspects of college life. The Warrior Path to Success program is the College's Quality Enhancement Plan submitted as partial fulfillment of Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) accreditation principles. Prior to joining the ECCC faculty on July 1, 2012, Watson served since 2003 as an English instructor for Jones County Schools in Laurel.

APPEARED IN:

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WEEK OF July 15, 2012

EC announces homecoming honorees

Recipients of the 2012 Alumni Association awards were recently announced at East Central Community College in Decatur. Honorees will be recognized during the annual awards luncheon, which will be held during Homecoming activities scheduled Saturday, September 29.

Wallace Strickland, a Decatur native and resident of Meridian, was selected Alumnus of the Year. He is a 1967 graduate of East Central Community College and currently serves as President/Chief Executive Officer of Rush Health Systems, Inc.; in Meridian.

Carole Pace Henry, a retired educator and member of the ECCC Class of 1957, was selected Alumna of the Year. She is a native of Decatur and currently resides in Madison.

The newest inductees into the Athletic Hall of Fame are Granville Freeman of Lake and Charles "Tommy" McCullough of Philadelphia.

A graduate of Morton High School, Freeman was a standout football player at ECCC from 1965 to 1967 and later found success as a high school coach, especially at Lake, where his 1974 team finished with an 11-0 record and allowed no points during the entire season. He is currently a State Farm Insurance agent in Forest.

McCullough is a graduate of Philadelphia High School He was a standout on the ECCC football squad from 1955 to 1958 and played in the 1958 East-West JUCO All-American game. He has been self-employed in the fireworks business for 25 years, following 21 years as a manager for Merchant Truck Company.

Special reunion activities are also scheduled for the Classes of 1957, '58 and '59, Classes of 1979, '80 and '81, Classes of 1986, '87 and '88 and the Class of 1962, which will celebrate its Golden Anniversary and receive special 50th anniversary diplomas. Also reuniting are members of the 1981 and 1982 Warrior Football Teams and the cast of the 1992 spring musical production "The 1940s Radio Hour."

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ECCC from page 3

in providing an education to students from "17 to 70" who enroll in adult basic education and GED-preparation classes offered free of charge in Decatur and at various locations throughout the College's five-county district. The College now hosts two GED Graduation Ceremonies to recognize an increasing number of students who earn their high school equivalency diplomas.

Workforce development continues to be an important part of the College's mission. Workforce training is recognition of the fact that learning does not stop with the awarding of a diploma. East Central continues to be recognized as one of the state's top community and junior colleges in providing workforce training.

Dr. Stewart said EC also prides itself in offering the very best in extracurricular programs and activities, which includes a highly regarded music department and competitive athletic teams.

"East Central provides a comprehensive college experience so students will have many occasions to participate in numerous college clubs, organizations and activities designed to assist them with personal growth and development," said Dr. Stewart. "We encourage students to become involved in campus life through participation in many of these wonderful opportunities."

Enrollment reached a record 3,223 students last fall and all indications point to another high enrollment, according to Dr. Randall E. Lee, Vice President for Student Services.

"Our numbers for enrollment are very similar to those of last year at this time," said Dr. Lee, whose office coordinates the College's recruiting efforts. "So we do expect to surpass last year's record."

East Central has held three orientation sessions this summer for new and transfer students planning to enroll in fall classes, which begin Thursday, August 16. A fourth orientation/registration session is scheduled Friday, August 3.

"We encourage students who plan to attend fall classes and have not registered for classes to attend the August 3 session," said Dr. Lee. "Classes are filling up quickly."

EC's orientation/registration process is also recognized for excellence, as indicated by results of student evaluations.

Nearly perfect marks were provided for the following categories: (1) Assistance provided by the College staff; (2) The attitude of the College staff; (3) The accuracy of summer orientation information students received before attending orientation; (4) The registration procedure; (5) Advisor interaction and schedule making; and (6) Admissions office procedures (entering schedule into computer).

"We are all about making the registration process as efficient and simple as possible," said Dr. Lee. "And as indicated from the survey results, we are providing such a service."

To further assist students with their educational goals, East Central offers an affordable education.

Tuition is now set at $940 per semester, which is considered an educational bargain compared to four-year colleges and universities and most community colleges.

In addition to providing the lowest fees possible, East Central continues to provide various forms of financial assistance for students of all ages. As an additional incentive for nontraditional students to enroll in classes, EC offers the first course "free of charge" to those who qualify.

East Central also makes every effort to provide the very best in campus facilities to further enhance the learning environment.

The most recent addition to the campus is the Davis Science Building, a $4.1 million facility that includes state-of-the-art laboratories for science students. Renovation of Cross Hall – where science classes will continue to be held – will soon be under way with plans to complete the $3 million project in the summer of 2013.

Dr. Stewart said EC remains committed to providing the very best educational experience for students of all ages.

"It is our sincere hope that attending ECCC will provide students with quality learning experiences as well as a lifetime of fond memories and new friendships," he stated. "We are committed to making the college experience both memorable and enjoyable, and we trust that students' success at ECCC will pave the way to a more rewarding future."

For more information, contact Student Services, 601-635-6205 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 205. The e-mail address is rlee@eccc.edu.

July 27, 2012

College Visitors / Events / News

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ECCC proud to serve as students' education partners

Special to The Star

Helping students succeed has been the mission of East Central Community College in Decatur since its founding in 1928.

Through the leadership of Dr. Billy W. Stewart, the commitment of providing the best education possible will be even more evident as the College begins a new era under its eighth president.

"Whether students have enrolled at EC with plans to earn an associate's degree and transfer to a four-year college or university, gain necessary skills through a career-technical program and enter the workforce, or take classes for personal or professional enrichment – we take great pride in serving as our students' educational partners," said Dr. Stewart, who began his new duties on July 1, 2012.

Dr. Stewart said EC, which was recently awarded reaffirmation of accreditation by the

Billy Stewart

Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, will continue to employ the "best and brightest" to educate its 3,000-plus student body.

"At ECCC, students will be surrounded by a group of talented and compassionate faculty members who are committed to excellence in teaching and learning," said Dr. Stewart. "Students will also be met by administrators and staff whose goal is to provide high-quality support services and/or programs that will lead to their success as a college student."

East Central offers coursework for more than 200 areas of concentration and course credits are guaranteed to transfer to the state's four-year colleges and universities, as a result of an articulation agreement with the four-year institutions.

The College continues to receive reports from four-year institutions indicating the academic success of its graduates. According to the data, EC students perform as well or better than students who began their collegiate experience on the university level and students representing the state's other community and junior colleges.

EC's academic success is further evidenced by the increasing number of student-athletes and athletic teams earning recognition on national and state levels. The Lady Warrior soccer squad received National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Academic Team of the Year honors for 2011-12 and five other sports teams were recognized for academic excellence. Eleven student-athletes were recognized as NJCAA Academic All-Americans for 2011-12. Numerous student-athletes also qualified on the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges (MACJC) Academic All-State Teams.

East Central also offers an extensive list of career-technical programs, including automotive technology, business and office technology, carpentry and cabinetmaking, early childhood education, collision repair technology, computer network support, computer information systems, cosmetology, drafting and design, electrical technology, hotel and restaurant management technology, culinary arts, and welding cutting.

The College's career-technical students are recognized for their expertise on a regular basis, as each year numerous students in Phi Beta Lambda and SkillsUSA receive honors at national and state competitions.

In the health-related area, programs include associate degree nursing, emergency medical technician-basic, emergency medical technician paramedic (EMT), practical nursing and surgical technology.

Students who complete EC's health-related programs consistently perform well on national/state licensure exams and job placement is annually near 100 percent.

East Central also takes pride

See **ECCC** on page 4

WEEK OF July 29, 2012

Board Officials

ECCC PHOT

SCOTT COUNTY OFFICIALS VISIT ECCC

Scott County officials were luncheon guests of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees. The special campus visitors are shown with trustees from Scott County following the luncheon. Seated from left are District Four Supervisor Johnny Harrell, trustee Annie Stowers of Forest, Comptroller Kim Irvin, Tax Assessor Myra Murrell-Davis, Chancery Clerk Lee Anne Livingston Palmer and trustees Rebecca Farris and Vernon Crotwell, both of Morton. Standing from left are District Two Supervisor Tim Sorey, District Five Supervisor Bruce McMillan, Circuit Clerk Joe Rigby, trustees Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth (Board Chairman) of Lake, Royce Shaw (Board secretary) of Forest and Bingham Moncrief of Morton, Scott County Supt. of Education District One Supervisor Jackie Bradford and District Three Supervisor Steven Crotwell. Dr. Hollingsworth and ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin expressed appreciation to the Scott County officials for their support of the College.

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WEEK OF August 5, 2012

Thomas chosen ECCC Dean of Healthcare Education

From press reports

Denita Thomas of Noxapater recently began her new duties as Dean of Healthcare Education at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Prior to her selection to the administrative position, Thomas served the past four years as a member of the College's Associate Degree Nursing faculty, where her duties included teaching in the classroom, supervising students in the hospital setting, assisting students with learning in the skills lab, advising students, serving as coordinator for the LPN to RN Bridge program, and coordinating and teaching students in the simulation lab.

Thomas, who was selected ECCC's Academic Instructor of the Year in 2011-12, was a member of the College's first class of ADN graduates in 1996. She said it is with "great pride" that her path in life has led her to return as an instructor and now Dean of Healthcare Education.

In addition to serving as an ADN instructor at ECCC, Thomas works as a family practitioner with Quality Hospice in Philadelphia.

Prior to her employment at the College in 2008, Thomas served as a family nurse practitioner with Neshoba Pediatric Medical Clinic in Philadelphia. She began her nursing career in 1996 with Magna Home Health of Philadelphia and continued at Louisville Group Homes-Hudspeth Center of Louisville.

"I have enjoyed all of my nursing opportunities," Thomas said. "Since becoming a registered nurse 15 years ago, I have worked in areas of home health and mental health. As a family practitioner since 2007, I have experience in areas of pediatrics, hospice and education. I enjoy working with patients and students."

Now that she is serving as healthcare dean, Thomas said she plans to continue the tradition of excellence in the healthcare programs at East Central. "We are committed to the preparation of students to meet the healthcare needs of the community in a knowledgeable, caring and professional manner."

In addition to Associate Degree Nursing, East Central offers Practical Nursing, Surgical Technology and EMT-Paramedic Technology.

Thomas holds the bachelor and master's degrees in nursing from the University of Southern Mississippi. She recently completed the Mississippi Community College Leadership Academy in Jackson.

She received a NISOD (National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development) Excellence Award in 2011-12.

She is a member of the Pulmonary Hypertension Association, Phi Kappa Phi Honorary Society, Sigma Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, Mississippi Nurses Association and American Nurses Association.

She also holds membership in ECCC's Alumni and Faculty associations.

Thomas is married to Sergeant Major John Thomas and they have two children: Alex, a 2012 ECCC graduate now attending the University of Southern Mississippi; and Adam, a sixth-grader at Winston Academy.

Thomas

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WEEK OF April 5, 2012

ECCC Musical Orchestra

Orchestra members for the East Central Community College musical production of Little Shop of Horrors included (from left) staff members Ed Girling, drums; Thomas W. Carson, guitar; Natalie Emmons, keyboard; and Ryan Clarke, bass guitar. The presentation was held March 28-31, 2012, in the Vickers Fine Arts Center auditorium. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF August 12, 2012

Corhern begins tenure as ECCC band director

Special to The Star

DECATUR – For the first time in 30 years, East Central Community College has a new director of bands.

Hunter Corhern has served as the Wall O' Sound leader since July. Corhern succeeds Thomas W. Carson, who retired from full-time teaching duties due to his battle with cancer.

Corhern, a former Starkville Academy band director who most recently served as a graduate teaching assistant at Missouri State University in Springfield, said he looks forward to continuing the success of one of the top band programs in the Mississippi Community and Junior College system.

"I am humbled that I get the opportunity to come in and work with the Wall O' Sound," said Corhern, a Starkville native.

"After accepting the position, I spoke with Mr. Carson about the history of the program and his experiences with it. I am truly following in the footsteps of a legend, not only at East Central but in the State of Mississippi."

Ironically, both Carson and Corhern were 27 when they accepted the position as East Central's director of bands.

"I am hoping that I'll be blessed enough to work with the Wall O' Sound for 30 years as Mr. Carson did," Corhern remarked.

Corhern, who was selected for the post at the April meeting of the College's Board of Trustees, said his top priority is to maintain and hopefully improve the quality of the highly-regarded band program.

"The Wall O' Sound has had a storied tradition of success," Corhern noted. "Our objective is to continue that success and see if we can add to it. Mr. (Ed) Girling (assistant director) and I have been hard at work this summer talking to students and planning the 2012 halftime show. It takes a lot of effort and coordination to put together a 180-piece band!"

Corhern said he plans to keep crowds "fired up" at football games by having a greater concentration on "stands tunes."

"Coming from Mississippi State for my bachelor's degree and Missouri State for my master's, I found that the best way to keep the crowd engaged is to play, cheer, and get everyone fired up!" he stated.

Corhern also discussed plans for this year's halftime show.

"Our marching show for the fall, 'And Let There Be Rock,' will feature several of our band members and sections, especially the Centralettes and percussion," he said. "I hope everyone will come out and support our Warriors this fall and cheer them on with the Wall O' Sound!"

Corhern and his family reside in the Decatur area, which is a "little bit of a change" from Springfield, Mo., as he stated:

"We just spent two years living in Springfield, with a population of 153,000; now we are living in around a population of about 1,500! However, we love being back in Mississippi!"

Corhern

Corhern brings an impressive resume to his new position. He was awarded the Robert and Alice Scott Scholarship at Missouri State University in 2011, and was nominated for the College's 2012 Outstanding Teaching Graduate Assistant Award.

He was the inaugural recipient of the W. Hunter Corhern Award at Mississippi State University, presented annually to a current or former member of the Lambda Phi Chapter of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia who demonstrates leadership and dedication in serving the chapter. Corhern is a former chapter president, vice president and treasurer of the social fraternity, which is dedicated to the advancement of music in America.

Corhern was also selected for the Society of Scholars at MSU in 2007. The organization is an honor society for students who demonstrate the highest standard of academic excellence and a broad exposure to the arts, humanities and sciences.

Corhern's professional affiliations include membership in Kappa Delta Pi, an international honor society in the field of education, which he also served as vice president. He also holds membership in Phi Kappa Phi, a national honor society for students and teachers of music.

A graduate of Starkville Academy, Corhern continued his education at MSU, where he received a bachelor of music education degree with Instrumental Emphasis in 2007 and completed a master of music degree in Wind Band Conducting in May.

Corhern has served as the director of facilitators for the Mississippi Hugh O'Brien Youth (HOBY) Leadership Seminar since 2009 and has been an active volunteer with the organization since 2002.

He was Starkville Academy's band director from 2008-10 and served as graduate teaching assistant at Missouri State University from 2010-12.

He is married to the former Leah Vincent of Brandon, who graduated from MSU with a bachelor of music degree in 2010. They have an infant son, Nicholas Corhern.

WEEK OF August 19, 2012

Dr. Billy Stewart, good start

SUMMARY: If good first impressions count, East Central Community College's new president has hit the ground running.

Dr. Billy Stewart, not William, Will or even Bill, newly installed president at East Central Community College, made his first appearance before the Leake County Board of Supervisors early this month.

He appeared to have set a truly good tone in the process.

It was his first trip to the board, making that onerous annual petition for funds from the county, armed with dry statistics and anecdotes concerning local students.

What transpired was an upbeat presentation on behalf of his new school, what its mission is and what its mission could become.

An optimistic offering of the history was followed with early suggestions of more the school can do for and in Leake County.

Admitting he knew too little about the school to promote too many specifics, he nonetheless served notice he would be keeping an eye on all the details, even to the appearance of the mail box in front of the presidential home. Unhappy with the way it appeared and the potentially bland first impression it made on visitors at ECCC, Dr. Stewart said he ordered it removed and opted to get a post office box for personal mail.

He came to ECCC with a strong resume with community college service and experience at Mississippi Gulf Coast and Copiah-Lincoln, plus high school teaching and administration.

His achievements could have filled a catalog, but ultimately that's all paperwork; what the vast majority of ECCC alumni and local officials needed to see was the man.

Leake County supervisors got to see the man and appeared to have come away much impressed.

They will get more opportunity to learn about him first hand; Dr. Stewart told officials he would be back for future board meetings to observe local officials in action and see what are the local issues, with an eye to how they affect his school and-or how the school might assist.

Dr. Stewart, hired from outside the ECCC fold, may be just the tonic East Central, or any other institution of higher learning, could want. EWP

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WEEK OF August 26, 2012

EC receives accreditation reaffirmation

DECATUR — East Central Community College in Decatur recently received notification of reaffirmation of accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) Commission on Colleges, announced new ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart.

Dr. Stewart said ECCC was included among colleges awarded reaffirmation of accreditation at the June 2012 meeting of the Board of Trustees of the SACS Commission on Colleges.

"We are very pleased East Central Community College has again received reaffirmation of accreditation for a 10-year period," said Dr. Stewart, who began serving as the College's eighth president on July 1, 2012. "This recognition validates what we know: the institution continues to provide a high-quality, post-secondary educational experience for students throughout our five-county service area. However, this reaffirmation is also a challenge to continue to improve the quality of the college's programs and services."

"The reaffirmation process has resulted in many positive outcomes for our college," added Dr. Stewart, "including the implementation of the Freshman Year Experience program, The Warrior Path to Success, identified by the College as its Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)."

Each institution applying for reaffirmation of accreditation through SACS is required to develop a QEP that addresses one or more issues that contribute to the improvement of student learning.

Dr. Teresa Houston, the college's new Vice President for Instruction, explained, "The College has developed a QEP to assist students in their transition to college life. Beginning with those who enroll in the fall of 2012, all first-time, full-time, at-risk developmental students will be enrolled in The Warrior Path to Success which is designed to provide students with tools and techniques, not just for academic success, but success in all facets of their lives. This experience will engage students in activities that will promote their social and economic mobility."

Dr. Stewart added, "This achievement would not have been possible without the dedicated and talented people who teach, work and serve students at ECCC and who worked diligently to earn this reaffirmation of accreditation."

East Central received notification of the accreditation status in a letter from Dr. Belle S. Wheelen, President, SACS Commission on Colleges.

In her statement on the SACS Commission on Colleges Web site, Dr. Wheelen noted when an institution has earned accreditation by the Commission on Colleges, it signifies that it "has a purpose appropriate to higher education and has the resources, programs and services

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WEEK OF August 26, 2012

Pinter joins ECCC staff

From school reports

Melanie Cleveland Pinter of Philadelphia was selected an Associate Degree Nursing instructor at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Pinter, who began her new duties Aug. 10, previously served as the College's Dual Enrollment Practical Nursing instructor, a position held since 2008.

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Pinter served as chief nurse for District VI of the Mississippi State Department of Health. She is also a former maternal/child-health/family planning coordinator with the Mississippi State Department of Health in Meridian. In addition, she previously served as a dialysis charge nurse for the Central Dialysis Unit of Forest and was earlier employed as a charge nurse/staff nurse for Leake Memorial Extended Care in Carthage.

She is a 1994 honor graduate of Forest High School, where she was selected to the Hall of Fame and received numerous other honors.

Pinter received an associate's degree from ECCC in 1996, a bachelor's degree in nursing from the University of Mississippi School of Nursing in Jackson in 1998, and a master's degree in nursing from William Carey College in Hattiesburg in 2010.

She has completed additional coursework at the South Central Public Health Leadership Institute at Tulane University in New Orleans and at the Public Health Nurse Academy in Jackson.

She was recently accepted into the Nursing Education/Nursing Administration PhD Program at William Carey University.

She is married to Patrick Pinter and they have two sons, Payton, five; and Parker, three.

APPEARED IN:

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF August 26, 2012

Ryals

Brown

• DECATUR – **Laura Ryals** of Decatur was recently selected assistant dean of Admission, Records and Research at East Central Community College.

Ryals previously served as an admissions assistant II at Mississippi State University in Starkville, a post she held from December 2008 to September 2011. She served the previous three years as an office assistant at MSU.

A 2004 graduate of Newton County High School, Ryals received an associate of applied science degree in drafting and design technology from ECCC in May 2006. She earned a bachelor of business administration in risk management,insurance and financial planning from MSU in December 2008. In addition, she has completed continuing education courses in office systems technology at East Mississippi Community College's Mayhew campus.

She is married to Chris Ryals, ECCC Drafting and Design Technology instructor. They have an infant daughter, Alyssa Cate.

• DECATUR – **Sherrell Brown** of Forest is a recent addition to the eLearning Education Department at East Central Community College.

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Brown served as an admissions counselor/recruiter for Antonelli College's Online Department in Jackson.

Brown is a 2004 honors graduate of Forest High School, where she was named to the Hall of Fame and was elected Miss FHS. She was a member of the Beta Club, band and choir and served as a Bearcat cheerleader.

She received an associate's degree in liberal arts from ECCC in May 2006. At ECCC, Brown was selected 2005 homecoming queen and was named to Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges. She was a member of the Concert Choir, Chamber Choir, Diamond Girls and the Centralettes, the dance line for the Wall O' Sound Marching Band.

Brown continued her education at Mississippi State University in Starkville and earned a bachelor's degree in communications in May 2008. While at MSU, she was a member of the Women's Chorale, Concert Choir, Student Broadcasting Association and Sigma Alpha Iota.

She is a member of Sylvester United Methodist Church in Forest.

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East Central Community College

From school reports

Kirt Doss of Philadelphia was recently selected automotive services technology instructor at the Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career-Technology Center, a division of East Central Community College in Decatur.

Doss, who began his new duties on Aug. 6, previously served as an automotive technician at Nelson Hall Chevrolet in Meridian since 2009. He held the same position at Tolbert Chevrolet from 2001-09. His work experience also includes serving as CNC Machinist at Taylor Machine Works in Philadelphia from 1997-2001 and at US Motors in Philadelphia from 1992-97. He began his career as an auto mechanic at S&H Firestone in Philadelphia, where he was employed from 1989-1992.

A graduate of Neshoba Central High School, Doss received an associate's degree in automotive technology from ECCC in 2001.

He is married to Misty Sullivan Doss of Philadelphia and they have two children, Chelsea Doss and Gabriel Doss, both of whom attend Neshoba Central.

Bridgett Hines Hitt of Little Rock was recently named administrative assistant in the financial aid department at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Hitt was employed since July 2006 at The Citizens Bank in Union, where she served in various positions, including loan secretary, new accounts customer service representative and teller. In all, she has approximately 14 years of experience in banking.

Hitt is a 1998 honor graduate of Newton County High School, where she was salutatorian and received numerous subject awards and scholarships.

She received an associate's degree in liberal arts/business administration from ECCC in May 2011.

While a student at ECCC, Hitt was a dean's list scholar and member of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, and Phi Beta Lambda, an organization for business students.

She is married to Matthew Hitt, who serves as Youth Minister at Duffee Baptist Church, where she also serves as Youth Sunday School teacher and co-Youth Leader with her husband. She is also active in the Newton County Youth Organization for baseball and softball.

They have two sons, Jacob, 11; and Logan, six.

Samantha Buckley of Lake was recently named eLearning Coordinator at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Buckley previously served as administrative assistant to the Dean of eLearning, a position she held since 2007.

Prior to her employment at ECCC, Buckley was employed with Trustmark National Bank and earlier served as a customer service representative with Tower Loan of Mississippi.Buckley received an associate's degree from ECCC in 2002 and earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Mississippi State University in 2004.

Christy Wilson of Marion was recently selected Practical Nursing instructor at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Billy Stewart.

Wilson, who began her new duties on August 13, was previously employed at Front Range Community College in Fort Collins, Colorado, where she taught associate degree nursing students in various areas including medical/surgical, pediatrics and psychiatric nursing.

She also served as an adviser to nursing students and on the school's Committee on Campus Culture.

In addition, she has held several nursing positions at Meridian and Lauderdale County health-related facilities.

Kirt Doss

Bridgett Hitt

In all, Wilson has 24 years of diverse supervisory, nursing and/or clinical experience in various medical settings including hospitals, clinics, school systems, health departments and detention facilities.

A graduate of Southeast Lauderdale High School, Wilson earned an associate's degree in nursing from Meridian Community College in 1988 and received bachelor and master's degrees in nursing from Regis University in Denver, Colorado, in 2008 and 2010, respectively.

Wilson raises wirehaired pointing griffons and is founder and director of Dragonfly Dreamer Rescue, a caregiver to numerous rescued pets.

She is the mother of four children, Misty Stokley Diaz, Eli Stokley and Benjamin Stokley, all of Lauderdale County, and Allyssa Stokley Garcia of Fort Collins, Colorado.

Alicia Lundstrom of Morton was recently selected Associate Degree Nursing instructor at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Lundstrom, who began her new duties on Aug. 10, previously served as a member of the College's Practical Nursing faculty, a position held since 2009.

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Lundstrom was employed at Scott Regional Hospital in Morton where she has held numerous positions, including director of emergency services, assistant director of nursing services and director of patient registration. She continues to work part-time at Scott Regional to maintain clinical practice. She has also held nursing positions at various healthcare facilities.

A 1999 graduate of Morton High School, Lundstrom received an associate's degree in nursing from ECCC in 2006 and earned a bachelor's degree in nursing from the University of Southern Mississippi in 2008.

She completed a master's degree in nursing from William Carey University in Hattiesburg in 2011, where she is currently enrolled in PhD courses. She has presented research obtained from her master's coursework at national nursing conferences.

Lundstrom, a certified nurse educator, is a member of numerous nursing organizations and recently served as District 15 vice president of the Mississippi Nurses' Association.

She is married to Jay Lundstrom and they have two children, Cody, eight and Caley, six.

Violet Lambert of Quitman was recently chosen Practical Nursing instructor at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Stewart.

Lambert, who began her new duties on Aug. 13, previously served as a registered nurse at Rush Foundation Hospital in

announces new staff

Samantha Buckley

Christy Wilson

Violet Lambert

Alicia Lundstrom

Meridian, a position she has held since 2003.

She is also former Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) instructor at the Clarke County Career and Technical Center in Quitman, and coordinated and supervised clinical rotations at Lakeside Convalescent Center in Quitman for CNA students.

While at Clarke County Career and Technical Center, Lambert also served as adviser for the Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) and in 1993 was recognized by the Mississippi Department of Vocational Education as the Outstanding HOSA Adviser.

Lambert has also served as a registered nurse at Jeff Anderson Regional Medical Center in Meridian and at H.C. Watkins Memorial Hospital in Quitman.

In all, she has 24 years of nursing and/or clinical experience in several disciplines including medical/surgical, emergency room, intensive care, post-partum, nursery/NICU, swing-bed and long-term care.

A native of Quitman, Lambert earned an associate's degree in nursing from Meridian Community College in 1988 and received bachelor and master's degrees in nursing from William Carey University in Hattiesburg, both in 2005.

She is married to Ray Lambert and they have four grown children, Dawn Davidson Moore, Jason Paul Davidson, Miranda Lynn Davidson and Rachel Faith Lambert.

A fifth child, Justin Keith Davidson, is deceased.

The Lamberts also have four grandchildren, Dalton P. Moore, Dixie L. Davidson, Justin Peyton Davidson and Brookilin Stafford.

WEEK OF September 9, 2012

Farris Honored for ECCC Service

Rebecca Farris (center) of Morton was recently recognized for her 25 years of service as a member of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees. Farris is shown with ECCC Board of Trustees Chairman Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth (left) of Lake and ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart following the group's August meeting on the Decatur campus. Farris and other longtime trustees were recognized at the 2012 MACJC Trustees Conference held in July. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

ECCC band presents 'And Let There Be Rock'

From school reports

Hunter Corhern

Ed Girling

Nicole Hillman

Calvin Griffin

Janie Mayfie

The 2012 version of the East Central Community College Wall O' Sound Marching Band continues to wow crowds with its halftime presentation of "And Let There Be Rock," a show first-year ECCC Director of Bands Hunter Corhern said "represents a style of music from the 1970s called jazz fusion, featuring jazz rhythms and horn lines with rock backgrounds."

Selections include "Open Up Wide" by the Bill Chase Band, "Getaway" and "September" from Earth, Wind, and Fire; "Jungle Boogie" by Kool and the Gang, "25 or 6 to 4" by Chicago and "Lady" by Styx.

"'And Let There Be Rock,' features several of our band members and sections, especially the Centralettes and percussion," said Corhern.

"I hope everyone will come out and support our Warriors this season and cheer them on with the Wall O' Sound."

In his first year at the helm of the Wall O' Sound, Corhern takes over a tradition-rich program begun by Thomas W. Carson, who recently retired after 30 years at ECCC to continue his battle against cancer.

"I'm appreciative of the opportunity I've been given to work with the Wall O' Sound. I spoke with Mr. Carson about the history of the program and his experiences with it. I am truly following in sippi Hugh O'Brien Youth (HOBY) Leadership Seminar since 2009.

He is married to the former Leah Vincent of Brandon and they have an infant son, Nicholas.

Ed Girling is beginning his third year as assistant band director at ECCC and has more than 30 years experience in music education.

He is past president of the East Central Mississippi Band Directors' Association, past president of the Mississippi Private School Band Directors' Association and is the founder and former director of the Scott County Honor Band.

He is a graduate of Pass Christian High School and holds the bachelor and master's of music education degrees from Delta State University.

He and his wife, Karen Girling, who serves as Band

Serving his second year as twirler instructor is **Calvin Griffin** of Carthage. He is a graduate of Carthage High School and is the son of Calvin and Jennifer Davis.

Wall O' Sound Band members include Raven Bane, Tiffany Benson, Heather Bradley, Tanya Burnside, Lucas Calvert, Denzel Clemons, Lauren Daniels, Chad Dorman, Samantha Farley, Katie Fedrick, Kayla Greer, Whitney Jenkins, Jonathan Keen, Sam Lovorn, Chris Lyons, Eden McGee, Meghan McPherson, Zach Peden, Joshua Richardson, Jermaine Russell, Austin Savell, Jason Savell, Dalton Sellers, Charles Taylor, Adrian Tucker, Katherine Upchurch, Jonathan Warren, Brandon Warrick, Hillary Williams and Leslie Young, Corey Burton Tyieasha Evans, Zyron Jones and Damien Lewis, ShyAnna Bell, Jacob King, Danielle Shelley, Bronson Henderson, Sandy Alexander, Ben Avera, Jon' Marie Baucum, Hannah Berryhill, Brooke Boyd, Ashley Bozeman, Katie Bradley, Michael Buntyn, Robin Coker, Jeremy Dade, Brandon Davis, Samantha Ellingburg, Hannah Farmer, Kristen Felton, Bo Foster, Julien Gillis, Tyler Gilmore, Taylor Gressett, Livi Harrison, Colton Hurst, Emily Jacome-Cluff, Sarah LaBue, Melissa Manues, Amanda Packer, Ryan Packer, Magen Pierce, Caitlyn Sant, Jayohnnie Slaughter, Chandler Smith, Jeremiah Chapman, Shamaine Jones, Jasmine Pickens, Javossiya Walker, Kara Miller, Jamey Tune, Jessie Armstrong, Hannah Cade, Georgia Doner, Gareth Driskill, Tarra Gibson and Courtney Mackey, Adriene Alderson, Emma Burton, Cortney Drummond, Thomas Justice, Matthew Mason, Tori McInnis, Beth Price, Ashley Swearingen, Mallory Wilkerson, Nathan Williams Lorraina Burkes, Kelsey Cox, Emilee Cox, Leslie Graham and Ryan McClendon, William Milner, Samson Pace, Beunca Patrick, Thomoz Smith, Abigail Buitrago, Jade Castillo, Chauncey Griffin, Kara Beth Johnson, Gloriana Latham, Sharde Mays, Jose Pereira, Maria Todd, Avery Ward, Shawn Windham, Jacob Emmons, Dustin Fisher, Matthew Graham, Kasey Logan and Brianna Parkman, Hunter Brooks and Rob Parker, Katie Butler and Danette Harris, Conor Bell, Mattie Brooks, Aaliyah Cook, Emily Crane, Destiny Crawford, Cody Jenkins, Kayla Lawrence, Maranda McDaniel, Kasia McQueen, Jessica Moore, Thomas Reeves, Maryanna Sikes, Turner Stevens, Nick Willis and Dillon Evans, Hickman, Rosie H Brecia Hornesburge Jenkins, Chris Mays Rodgers, Abbie Smit Staszefski, Jake Th Vacinte Young, Kay ington, Emily Gully, Massey, Ashley Kendall Taylor, Gilmer, Emily W Mark Beasley, Jere van.

SPIRIT OF MORTON ___

MERIDIAN STAR ___

WEEK OF September 16, 2012

McKnight selected ECCC cheer coach

Pam McKnight has been selected cheer coach for East Central Community College.

McKnight has more than 15 years experience as both a coach and cheerleader. In addition to part-time coaching responsibilities, she works in design and sales for Varsity Fashion, Inc., where she has been employed for seven years. She also serves as head coach for the Forest High School varsity cheer squad, a position she has held for the past 13 years.

A former trainer and coach at Leake Gymnastics, she served as director and choreographer for Scott County Junior Miss and continues to choreograph locally and throughout the state for individuals and organizations.

She is a graduate of Edinburg High School and received an associate's degree from East Central Community College, where she served two years as a member of the Warrior cheerleading squad. She also attended Mississippi State University.

MCKNIGHT

McKnight and her husband, Jason, have two daughters, Adyson, 5, and Ava, 2.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

the footsteps of a legend, not only at East Central, but in the State of Mississippi," Corhern said. "Our objective is to continue that success and see if we can add to it."

Corhern previously served as a graduate assistant at Missouri State University, where he was selected 2012 Outstanding Teaching Graduate Assistant. From 2008-2012 he served as band director at Starkville Academy.

Corhern is a graduate of Starkville Academy and received his bachelor's degree from Mississippi State University and his master's degree from Missouri State University.

He is a former chapter president of Lambda Phi Chapter of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia and the Society of Scholars honor society at Mississippi State University and is a member of Kappa Delta Pi and Phi Kappa Phi honor societies. Additionally, he has served as Director of Facilitators for the Mississippi Director at Carthage High School, have one daughter, Anna.

Nichol Hillman is serving her seventh year as ECCC Centralette Coordinator/Choreographer.

She is a graduate of Newton County High School, ECCC and the University of Southern Mississippi, where she received the bachelor's of fine arts in dance education.

She is married to Brandon Hillman of Little Rock and they have four children: Tucker, Will, Jesse and Ayda.

Janie Mayfield begins her third year as color guard coordinator. She previously served as a head coach and director of competitive gymnastics teams, coached and sponsored coed high school cheerleading squads, and choreographed cheerleading and gymnastics routines for competition.

She is a graduate of Georgetown High School and Lee University.

She has three children: Jamie, Keri Ann, and Jase.

EC to add two to Hall of Fame at homecoming

From school reports

East Central Community College will add two members to its Athletic Hall of Fame at the 2012 homecoming celebration scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 29 on the Decatur campus.

Former football standouts Tom McCullough (Class of 1958) of Philadelphia and Granville Freeman (Class of 1967) of Lake, who also experienced success as a high school football coach, will be enshrined into the prestigious group during the Alumni Association Awards Luncheon, which begins at 11 a.m. in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

Granville Freeman

Granville Freeman was a standout member of the 1965 and 1966 East Central Community College football teams.

The speedy halfback and defensive back garnered All-Star and honorable mention All-State honors after helping lead the Warriors to a combined 11-8-1 record under head coach Dan Chatwood.

Freeman

The former Morton High School star caught the attention of several four-year colleges and universities to continue his athletic career after East Central but instead chose to concentrate on his academic studies and career.

And what a stellar "first" career he had at Lake High School, where the then 26-year-old head football coach not only led the 1974 Hornets to an undefeated season at 11-0, the talented squad was unscored upon and unchallenged while racking up 321 points — 32.1 points per game (the final win of the remarkable season was via forfeit).

Freeman and team members were recognized by the 2012 Mississippi Legislature prior to reunion activities held earlier this year to celebrate and reminisce about the team's remarkable season.

When contacted about receiving the prestigious award, Freeman said he found himself at a loss for words, obviously an unusual situation for the Forest resident who recently observed more than 30 years as a State Farm Insurance agent.

"It's overwhelming," Freeman said of the honor. "The Athletic Hall of Fame is a very, very unique group… it's like being awarded a blue ribbon; they don't give but one. Words cannot describe the feeling."

Freeman's accomplishments on the football field began at Morton High School, where he provided many memorable moments for Panther fans.

His proudest moment probably came in the 1964 game with Brandon, when Freeman, at 5-10, 117 pounds, scored all of Morton's points, which included a 99 ½ yard interception return. But Freeman did more than just return the pigskin for a score; he added a little "showboating" during the run.

"When I got to about midfield, I turned around and started running backwards toward the end zone while waving to the Brandon fans," Freeman laughed while recalling the special moment. "The fans went wild, of course…but Coach (Dale) Brasher (head coach) and Coach (Jack) Taylor (assistant) were not amused one bit. Let's just say I never pulled such a stunt again."

Freeman was a four-year letterwinner at Morton and was selected team captain and best back. He was an honorable mention All Little Dixie Conference selection and played in the Mississippi High School All-Star Game in 1965.

He also excelled in track and twice won the 100-yard dash in state competition. His best time in the event was clocked at 10 seconds flat.

Freeman's athletic abilities caught the attention of several college coaches, especially then Warrior head coach Tommy Guthrie who offered him a scholarship. But when Freeman arrived at East Central, a coaching change was made and Dan Chatwood was head coach.

Unbeknown to Freeman and the other signees, scholarship offers were made "to about 200 players," he recalled, "but only 30 players would receive scholarships."

Freeman said he can still remember hearing the conversation between Coach Chatwood and his assistant, Hansel King.

"Coach King said, 'Dan, what are we going to do with this many football players and so few scholarships?' And Coach Dan replied, 'We're going to run a bunch of them off.'"

Freeman clearly remembers turning to teammate Keith Holt and stating, "Keith, we're in for a treat, brother. We're in for a treat. And sure enough, we were in for a treat."

Freeman "survived" his freshman season and helped lead the Warriors to a 7-3 record.

Highlights included a 13-6 win over archrival East Mississippi, led by the legendary Coach "Bull" Sullivan.

Freeman helped set up East Central's first touchdown when he intercepted a pass near midfield and returned the ball to the Lions' 15-yard-line.

Another highlight came in a 15-12 upset of nationally ranked Holmes Community College. Freeman's interception of a Holmes pass during a two-point conversion attempt following a late first half score allowed the Warriors to maintain an 8-6 margin at halftime.

Tom McCullough

Tom McCullough was well-prepared for the challenges of junior college football in the mid-1950s, although the opposing players — and sometimes his own teammates — were probably not prepared to handle him.

The Philadelphia resident was among the many student-athletes who in those days completed military service prior to enrolling in college. But McCullough was probably the only veteran who entered military service following the sophomore year in high school. And he was no doubt among the few who did so while also being married. And on top of that, he qualified to play three years on the Warrior football team.

McCullough had tough decisions to make as a teenager, especially after experiencing success as a member of Philadelphia High School football team.

McCullough

A standout center/linebacker, McCullough was named to the All Choctaw Conference team as a freshman and was an All-State selection his sophomore season.

McCullough said he was "very proud" to serve his country as a member of the U.S. Marine Corps, where he was stationed at Camp Lej N.C. He added being a member "football team" was "quite an ex ence."

"It was different…playing M football," he said. "A lot of forme lege players were on the team was the only one who had never to college. They taught me a l you might expect."

McCullough said competition "very fierce" among squad mem "because if you got cut, you wo sent to fight in the Korean War nobody wanted to get cut."

After completing his Marine c McCullough returned home worked about a month as a weld a local industry but he soon de he needed to return to school.

He enrolled in 1955 at N County Agricultural School, was then a part of East Central College. He was able to earn hi diploma that year while a mem the Warrior football team. He w cruited by head football coach Ray Lindsley but before the s started, Lindsley stepped dow Clayton Blount became head c

McCullough and the Warriors rienced a successful 1955 s which included victories over east (26-2), Northwest (Holmes (18-0), Hinds (13-7), E (39-0) and Itawamba (14-0). were to Co-Lin (26-20), Delta Pearl River (6-0) and Jones (34

Of the six victories, McCu said the Hinds and East MS stand out most.

Hinds was led by fullback Ji lor, who was later an All-Ameri Louisiana State University an an All-Pro selection for the Gree Packers.

WEEK OF September 23, 2012

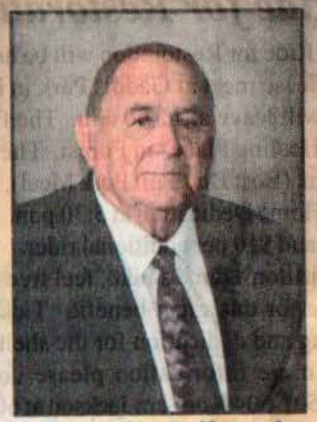
HOMECOMING 2012

"A Year For Beginnings"

Wallace Strickland
Alumnus of the Year

Carole Pace Henry
Alumna of the Year

Granville Freeman
Athletic Hall of Fame



Tom McCullough
Athletic Hall of Fame

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East Central Community College Homecoming Court members and their respective high schools include (from left) freshman maids Payton Smith, Scott Central; Jayohnnie Slaughter and Taylor Gressett, both of Newton County; Brooke Massey, Winston Academy; Queen Erin Thornton, Newton County; Maid of Honor LaJoya Griffin, Philadelphia; and sophomore maids Hannah Farmer, Newton County; and Lauren Daniels and Jordan Clearman, both of Neshoba Central.

Schedule of Events

Thursday, September 27

7 p.m. **Pep Rally**
Bailey Stadium

Friday, September 28

4 p.m. **Mixed & Men's Tennis Tournament**
ECCC Tennis Courts

Saturday, September 29

7 a.m. **Registration for Homecoming 5K Run/Walk**
North Campus Pavilion - Run/Walk Starts 7:30 a.m.

9 a.m. **Bookstore Open**
Eddie M. Smith Student Union
Memorabilia Room Open
Burton Library

10 a.m. **Homecoming Registration Begins**
East Mall Patio near Mabry Memorial Cafeteria
Alumni Baseball Tournament
Clark/Gay Baseball Complex

11 a.m. **Alumni Luncheon**,
Mabry Memorial Cafeteria
Lil' Warrior Kid Zone
Bailey Stadium

1 p.m. **Reunion Groups Meet**
Bailey Stadium
Classes of 1957, 1958, & 1959; Class of 1962
Classes of 1979, 1980, & 1981; Classes of 1986, 1987, & 1988
1981 and 1982 Warrior Football Teams; and 1992 Spring Musical Cast of "The 1940s Radio Hour"
Warrior Club Tailgating and Annual Meeting
Bailey Stadium

1:30 p.m. **Awarding of 50th Anniversary Diplomas to Class of 1962**
Bailey Stadium

2:30 p.m. **Football Game – ECCC vs. Hinds**
Halftime - Recognition of Homecoming Honorees; Presentation of Queen and Court; and Performance by the Wall O' Sound Marching Band

East Central Community College

P.O. Box 129 Decatur, MS 39327 • 1-877-462-3222 • www.eccc.edu

September 29, 2012

WEEK OF September 23, 2012

Wilson chosen ECCC practical nursing instructor

Christy Wilson of Marion was recently selected Practical Nursing instructor at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart.

Wilson, who began her new duties on Aug. 13 was previously employed at Front Range Community College in Fort Collins, Colo., where she taught associate degree nursing students in various areas including medical/surgical, pediatrics and psychiatric nursing.

She also served as an adviser to nursing students and on the school's Committee on Campus Culture.

In addition, she has held several nursing positions at Meridian and Lauderdale County health-related facilities.

In all, Wilson has 24 years of diverse supervisory, nursing and/or clinical experience in various medical settings including hospitals, clinics, school systems, health departments and detention facilities.

A graduate of Southeast Lauderdale High School, Wilson earned an associate's degree in nursing from Meridian Community College in 1988 and received bachelor and master's degrees in nursing from Regis University in Denver, Colo., in 2008 and 2010, respectively.

Christy Wilson

Wilson raises wirehaired pointing griffons and is founder and director of Dragonfly Dreamer Rescue, a caregiver to numerous rescued pets.

She is the mother of four children, Misty Stokley Diaz, Eli Stokley and Benjamin Stokley, all of Lauderdale County, and Allyssa Stokley Garcia of Fort Collins, Colo.

She completed a master's degree in nursing from William Carey University in Hattiesburg in 2011, where she is currently enrolled in PhD courses.

She has presented research obtained from her master's coursework at national nursing conferences.

Lundstrom, a certified nurse educator, is a member of numerous nursing organizations and recently served as District 15 vice president of the Mississippi Nurses' Association.

She is married to Jay Lundstrom and they have two children, Cody, eight and Caley, six.

APPEARED IN:

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Alicia Lundstrom

Alicia Lundstrom joins ECCC associate degree nursing faculty

Alicia Lundstrom of Morton was recently selected Associate Degree Nursing instructor at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Lundstrom, who began her new duties on Aug. 10, previously served as a member of the College's Practical Nursing faculty, a position held since 2009.

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Lundstrom was employed at Scott Regional Hospital in Morton where she has held numerous positions, including director of emergency services, assistant director of nursing services and director of patient registration.

She continues to work part-time at Scott Regional to maintain clinical practice. She has also held nursing positions at various healthcare facilities.

A 1999 graduate of Morton High School, Lundstrom received an associate's degree in nursing from ECCC in 2006 and earned a bachelor's degree in nursing from the University of Southern Mississippi in 2008.

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WEEK OF September 30, 2012

Strickland honored as ECCC

'Humbled and honored' is how Wallace Strickland of Meridian described his feelings after being named 2012 "Alumnus of the Year" at East Central Community College in Decatur.

"East Central Community College, or East Central Junior College as it was known when I was a student, has a very special place in my heart," Strickland said. "The coursework and dedicated instructors at ECJC truly prepared me to advance in my education and ultimately my life's work."

That life's work has been a 42-year career with Rush Health Systems, Inc. in Meridian. Strickland currently serves as President and Chief Executive Officer for the health system that is made up of seven hospitals and employs approximately 3500 residents of east Mississippi and west Alabama. In addition, Rush Medical Group, Medical Foundation and Specialty Hospital have more than 175 physicians and mid-level practitioners in nearly 30 locations.

ECCC alumnus Cheryl Comans, who nominated Strickland for the award wrote, "Throughout my association with Mr. Strickland, I have been well aware of his pride in having attended East Central and his dedication to and support of the college. His assistance with various aspects of health-related programs and the provision of a trainer for all sports programs are notable. Many professional, civic and community organizations have also benefited from Mr. Strickland's dedication to the betterment of East Central Mississippi."

In a letter endorsing his nomination, Dr. John Mutziger of the Decatur Family Medical Center, a division of Rush Health Systems, said, "I believe it is due to the foresight and vision of Mr. Strickland that we have been able to establish a modern family practice clinic with three providers here in Decatur. This would not have been done without his help."

Mutziger continued, "I count him as a friend as well as business associate and boss. We are lucky at Rush Health Systems to have him here. I can think of no one else who comes close to fitting the qualifications as East Central Community College Alumnus of the Year."

Strickland began his career in the accounting department and worked his way through the ranks at Rush. It's a career path that he said definitely made an impact on his leadership.

"I believe it has given me greater opportunities to value and respect our employees for the contributions they make. We are very fortunate at Rush to have many dedicated employees who have worked in the organization for decades. When you have worked alongside people for many years, and worked together with them to take care of patients, learn new technology and expand services, you come to value and respect them in a very special way, especially when you see them persevere through difficult times or work through difficult situations together with them. They become your 'work family.'"

Of his leadership style, Strickland said, "I believe in servant leadership, attention to detail and that the buck stops with me."

Healthcare is an ever-changing industry and Strickland said he has been fortunate to witness much change and many advances.

"My career in healthcare has encompassed a very exciting period of time in medicine, during which a great deal of technological advances have been made. During that time, Rush Health Systems has grown and changed tremendously as well."

Wallace Strickland

When Strickland began his tenure with Rush, he said there were no fax machines or computers. Rush Hospital and Rush Medical Group, which then consisted of nine physicians, were the sole basis of the operation. Today, he said computers are used in almost every aspect of the business, including many key aspects of patient care.

"The challenge for us in our industry is to keep the human aspects of all we do in perspective as we make technological advances. While everything surrounding us may change as far as technology is concerned, the people aspect doesn't change. At the heart of every action is a patient who needs our care and behind every piece of technology we operate is a person, our employee, who needs to be focused on the needs of the patient, and appropriately trained to do the job."

For his success in the healthcare industry, Strickland gives much praise to his Rush predecessor.

"I have been and continue to be strongly influenced and greatly blessed by an outstanding gentleman who has served as a mentor and inspiration to me and to many others, Mr. J.C. McElroy, Jr.," Strickland said.

"Mr. McElroy saw promise in

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'Alumnus of the Year'

me, gave me opportunities to advance and learn, and taught me so many important management techniques and skills that have helped me learn and grow in my career and in my life. He leads by example and takes time to help others develop the best in themselves. As the current Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Rush Health Systems, he is still looked to for guidance and sound advice. Mr. McElroy retired from Rush Health Systems in 1999, but in his role as board chairman, he continues to inspire with innovative ideas and great leadership. I will be forever grateful for his confidence in me and his support and guidance."

Perhaps the his greatest influence was from his parents, the late Larn and Geneva Strickland, who instilled in him a strong work ethic and sense of responsibility.

"They also instilled in me a love of our home where I grew up just outside of Decatur. My parents felt it was important to get a college education and then to find an employer where you could be loyal and dedicated," he said. "I would also like to mention my late uncle, James Vance, also an ECCC graduate, and the role he played in showing a young man from Decatur that a college education was a possibility."

A member of the Class of 1967, Strickland said it was the accessibility and affordability of East Central that allowed him to begin his college career.

"Had I not been able to begin my college studies close to home, with affordable tuition, I would not have pursued higher education," Strickland said. "East Central prepared me for and allowed me to compete in the business world. Had it not been for my two years at East Central, I would never have accomplished things I have thus far."

Strickland said he worked two jobs and lived at home while attending East Central and although he was limited on extracurricular activities, it was the people he met while attending East Central that are the highlight of his time as a student.

Of his instructors at East Central, Strickland said, "I have always felt a huge debt of gratitude to those at ECJC who inspired a very shy young man from Decatur, Mississippi, to pursue his education. Those instructors also helped me build my self-confidence. When talking about my educational background, I always say that my instructors at ECJC were some of the best, if not the best I had anywhere, even in graduate school. I am reluctant to mention specific people, however, I would be remiss if I didn't mention these individuals: Ovid Vickers, the best professor period; Frank Leatherwood, one of the most dedicated professors; and Frank Cross, a very inspiring professor."

Strickland continued his education at Mississippi State University, where he received a bachelor's degree, and completed the MBA at the University of Alabama.

He was honored recently by having the Wallace Strickland/Rush Health Systems Endowed Scholarship established at the College in his honor by Newton Community Health Foundation and Rush Health Systems. He was selected Meridian Star Citizen of the Year in 2006 and is a member of the Meridian Community College Hall of Fame.

In addition, he serves as chairman of the Medicaid Hospital Advisory Board; member of the Board of Directors for Great Southern National Bank; board member for the State Games of Mississippi; past chairman of the East Mississippi Business Development Corporation (2005); and Past President of the Mississippi Medical Group Management Association (1976).

Strickland is married to the former Judy Morland of Meridian. They have two children, Julie and Jason.

"I am proud to say my entire immediate family is or has been a part of the Rush family of caregivers," Strickland said. "My wife, Judy, worked for 23 years, until 1995, when she decided to stay home to be more involved in our children's school and sports activities. As data processing director, Judy played an integral role at Rush during the 1980s and 90s when so many advances were being made in technology, especially in the area of computerization of all our business functions.

"Our daughter, Julie Marie, is a registered pharmacist who works at H.C. Watkins Memorial Hospital in Quitman and our son, Jason, works in Business Services as the Third Party Payor Audit coordinator, having started his career in an entry-level position much like the role I started in. It is very gratifying to have my children choose careers in the healthcare field and have the opportunity to work with them."

In addition, Strickland's sister, Neva Joe Pettigrew, and her daughter, Jennifer Lafferty, both family nurse practitioners, work at Immediate Care Clinic and Marion Primary Care Center, respectively.

Strickland was honored along with additional award recipients during the College's annual Alumni Awards Luncheon, scheduled at 11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 29 during the annual Homecoming festivities.

WEEK OF September 30, 2012

ECCC adjunct instructors from Neshoba County

East Central Community College adjunct faculty members from Neshoba County for 2012-13 include, from left, GiGi Barron (English), Hillary Ward (English/Reading) and Denise Keller (American National Government/Speech), all of Philadelphia. For more information on the College's academic offerings, contact Dr. Teresa Houston, Vice President for Instruction, 601-635-6202 or e-mail thouston@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF September 30, 2012

Supervisors receive invite to ECCC event

By Joseph McCain
The Winston County Journal

The Winston County Board of Supervisors made fairly quick work of the short agenda in the Oct. 1 meeting.

Board President Michael Peterson in addition to covering the agenda also gave opportunities to several citizens to address the board on matters of concern.

"We feel like we work for all the folks," noted Peterson as he offered the floor to new East Central Community College President Dr. Billy Stewart. Stewart reminded the supervisors that the college would have a big announcement Oct.9.

"Believe it to be one of the biggest announcements in ECCC history," said Stewart.

The board also reviewed and approved the Circuit Court Grand Jury report which had a large docket for the court calendar. The grand jury handled 121 reported violations and returned 100 true bills with five matters receiving a no bills or indictments and nine remanded to a lower court and seven sent back for further investigation.

In other business, the supervisors:

• Approved of Sept. 17 and Sept. 27 minutes.

• Had Homestead reinstated for two residents.

• Approved $800 for indexing system for board minutes on the computer system.

• Listened to an update from County Engineer Jimmy Kemp. Kemp reviewed ongoing road projects in the county. Kemp noted District 4. He explained that the Sims Road project was in the final cleanup stages in District 5.Kemp noted that the Bevill Hill project in District was working on and hoped to wrap up quickly. He added that two other projects in District 3, BethEden project and Yellow Creek Road project were out for bid with bid opens upcoming.

• Discussed the roof repair at the Teters Building with ECCC president Stewart since ECCC Workforce Training classes are also hosted in parts of the building.

• Approved and discussed Sixteen Section Property leases. Supervisor Luke Parkes questioned how the school district can use Weir,MS as a comparable for value on leases in Winston County. Peterson recused himself from the discussion and vote.

• Peterson requested that removing computer items from the maintenance contract be examined quickly before next payment. The county may be able to save up to $20,000 by removing unnecessary items from the contract.

• Approved the monthly expense summary.

• Acknowledge agreement with City of Louisville to collect school taxes and motor vehicle taxes.

• Discussed work being done to collect old fines in the Justice Court.

• Discussed start of Absentee balloting for November election and last day to register to vote is Oct. 6. The circuit clerk's office will be open until 7 p.m. all week to get last minute registering voters and will be open Oct. 6 until noon.

• Discussed the redistricting of county lines that will be implemented when the county is removed from the litigation by the NAACP in the state. The county plan has received approval from the Department of Justice and has filed to be removed from the lawsuit. The new county lines are suppose to go in affect for 2014.

• Discussed tornado preparedness day drill on Oct. 24 by Winston County EMA.

• Discussed with Tax Assessor Larry Woodard acknowledge hold on car tags and mobile home deliquent taxes. The Tax office filed 203 tax liens this year.

• Acknowledge receipt of DUI grant for the Winston County Sheriff's office.

The next regular meeting is set for Oct. 15.

Supes

Continued from page 1

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WEEK OF September 30, 2012

ECCC Adjunct

East Central Community College adjunct faculty members from Winston County for 2012-13 include (front row, from left) Liscelle Smith (English/speech), Mary Ann Ballew (math) and Paula Stokes (Computer I and II), all of Louisville; and (back row, from left) Shonna Ryals (English) and Diane Carter (math), both of Louisville. For more information on the College's academic offerings, contact Dr. Teresa Houston, Vice President for Instruction, 601-635-6202 or e-mail thouston@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF October 7-2012

2014-15 freshman class of ECCC from 5 counties can attend for free

Oct. 08

clarionledger.com

2014-15 freshmen in five counties can now attend East Central Community College after graduation at no cost to the students, thanks to a generous donation to the school.

A record donation $2.68 million given to the school by the estate of a 1940 ECCC graduate will guarantee tuition is paid for any high school graduate in the college's five county district, which is comprised of Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties, an ECCC press release says.

ECCC President Billy W. Stewart announced the guaranteed tuition program today at a press conference on the Decatur campus. The estate of Frances Gaines Blum Slagle, a former Decatur resident, recently presented the ECCC Foundation with the donation.

The funds will be used to complete the cost of tuition, which is currently $940 a semester, so if a student is already receiving other scholarships or financial aid, the tuition guarantee program will pay the remaining balance.

Although the tuition guarantee program currently applies to qualified freshmen in 2014-15, Stewart said efforts are underway to "permanently provide the cost of tuition" for ECCC district students.

"We plan to meet with our local boards of supervisors and area businesses and industries in hopes of making the guaranteed tuition program available on a permanent basis," Stewart said.

Slagle died at age 94 on May 11 in Evans, Ga. She owned and operated Carlson Travel Agency in Sebring, Fla. A Minter City native, Slagle attended Decatur High School and then East Central Junior College, where she was a member of the Warriorette basketball team.

Slagle's niece, Carole Pace Henry of Madison, a 1957 ECCC graduate, was recently honored as ECCC's Alumna of the Year.

For more information on the guaranteed tuition program, contact ECCC Student Services, 601-635-6205 or e-mail rlee@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF October 7, 2012

ECCC class of 1962 reunion

Observing their 50th class reunion at East Central Community College's 2012 homecoming celebration held Sept. 29, were (front row, from left) June Whatley DePriest of Clinton, Nan Harbour Busby of Charlotte, N.C.; Ann Eaves McLelland of Prattville, Ala.; Amanda Anderson Lovorn of Louisville; Pat Hill Madison of Brandon; Brenda Kirby of Forest; Carole Anthony Leach of Sebastopol; Renee Nickell Guthrie of Union Springs, Ala.; Charlotte Duncan Gray of Pearl; and Joe DePriest of Clinton; and (back row, from left) Richard Rivers of Union, Robert Kirkland of Philadelphia, Jimmy Sibley of Simpsonville, S.C.; Sam Roberts of Leroy, Ala.; Jimmy Gilbert of Cuthbert, Ga.; Edward Leach of Stonebrook, Conn.; Bobby Thames of Alabaster, Ala.; Luther Rives of Brandon; and Rodney Bounds of Newton. Also pictured is ECCC President Billy W. Stewart, who presented "Golden Anniversary" diplomas to class members during a ceremony in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

EC photo

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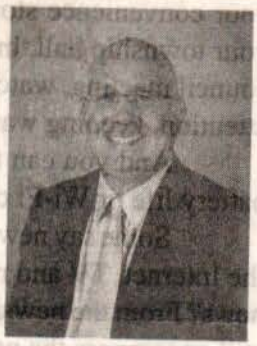

Kevin Ryals

East Central Community College

presents

Kevin Ryals

recipient of the

ECCC Mississippi Humanities Council

2012 Teacher Award

"A Legacy of Teaching: Through the Generations"

October 15, 2012

6:30 p.m.

Ovid S. Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium

This program is sponsored by the Mississippi Humanities Council.

East Central Community College

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WEEK OF October 7, 2012

Wright selected as EC instructor

Jenna Wright

Jenna H. Wright was recently selected mathematics instructor at East Central Community College in Decatur. She officially joined the ECCC faculty on Aug. 9.

Wright, a native of Banks, Ala., previously served as a graduate assistant in the mathematics department at Mississippi State University-Starkville, where she taught college algebra and worked in several math labs as a tutor.

She has also served as seventh through 12th grade math intern.

A graduate of Pike Liberal Arts High School in Troy, Ala., Wright received a bachelor's degree in mathematics education at Troy University in Troy, Ala., in 2009 and earned a master's degree in statistics from Mississippi State University-Starkville in August 2012.

She is married to Eric Wright, a federal land surveyor.

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WEEK OF October 14, 2012

Scholarship funds handed to ECCC

Scholarships will be available for qualified high school graduates from the five-county service area of East Central Community College in 2014-15, thanks to a donation from an alumna.

The estate of Frances Gaines Blum Slagle, a 1940 ECCC graduate and former Decatur resident, recently presented the ECCC Foundation with approximately $2.68 million in cash, stocks and certificates of deposit to be used to establish student scholarships.

The gift represents the largest single donation ever received by the institution and one of the largest gifts ever received by a community college in Mississippi.

ECCC President Dr. Billy W. Stewart made the announcement during a press conference Tuesday, Oct. 9.

Dr. Stewart announced $50,000 will be used to endow the Willis E. Blum and Frances Blum Slagle Scholarship, and the remaining $2.63 million will be used to endow the Children of Andrew Gaines and Inez Gaines: Marjorie Mansfield, Mary George Pace, Frances Gaines Blum Slagle, Virginia Gaines Smith and Geneva Gaines Boring Tuition Guarantee Scholarship.

Details for both scholarships are currently being developed.

Dr. Stewart said interest earned from the $2.63 million contribution will guarantee tuition for the freshman year for high school graduates from Leake, Scott, Neshoba, Newton and Winston counties who enroll at ECCC the fall semester immediately following high school graduation.

The tuition guarantee scholarship is slated to begin in the fall of 2014 and will be used to "complete" the cost of tuition for the fall and spring semesters of the freshman year at ECCC.

Slagle, 94, died May 11 in Evans, Ga. She owned and operated Carlson Travel Agency in Sebring, Fla.

A Minter City, MS, native, Slagle attended Decatur High School and continued her education at East Central Junior College, where she was a member of the "Warriorette" basketball squad.

She received a degree in travel administration from Columbia University in Columbia, MO.

For more information on the Guaranteed Tuition Scholarship, contact ECCC Student Services, 601-635-6205 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 205. The e-mail address is rlee@eccc.edu

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WEEK OF October 14, 2012

ECCC Homecoming honorees

Receiving special recognition at East Central Community College's 2012 Homecoming celebration held Saturday, Sept. 29, were, from left, Wallace Strickland (Class of 1967) of Meridian, Alumnus of the Year; Carole Pace Henry (Class of 1957) of Madison, Alumna of the Year; and Athletic Hall of Fame inductees Granville Freeman (Class of 1967) of Lake and Tom McCullough (Class of 1958) of Philadelphia. Award presentations were made during the annual Alumni Luncheon held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF October 14, 2012

EC classes hold reunion

Members of the East Central Community College classes of 1957, 1958 and 1959 met for their annual reunion during Homecoming activities held Saturday, Sept. 29 on the Decatur campus. Pictured are front, from left, Nancy Patterson Haggard of Clinton, Hallie J. Frazier Blaylock of Tuscaloosa, Ala.; Nan Barrier Stamper of Union, Carole Pace Henry of Madison, Carol Vickers of Decatur, Lois Blount Cooper of Madison and Mary Jo Hollingsworth Chanaud of Centreville, Md.; and back, from left, Charles Mooney of Louin, Hank Moreau of Decatur, Jimmy Fisackerly of New Orleans, La.; Jeannette Thrash of Decatur, Willard May of Petal, Donny K. Hopkins of Clinton, Bubba Hudspeth of Louisville and Jimmy Rea of Madison. (EC Photo)

Members of the East Central Community College classes of 1979, 1980 and 1981 met for their second annual reunion during Homecoming activities held Saturday, Sept. 29 on the Decatur campus. Pictured are from left, Alexander Ealy of Morton, Leah Livingston-Donald and Flo Henley, both of Starkville; and Kent Holdiness of Louisville. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF October 14, 2012

Former Warriors honored at ECCC

Members of the 1981 and 1982 East Central Community College Warrior football teams were among special groups honored during the College's Homecoming celebration held Saturday, September 29 on the Decatur campus. Pictured are front, from left, Todd Wall of Brandon, Doug Hubbard of Lucedale, Jay Jones of Meridian, Alice Pouncey of Decatur, whose husband, the late Ken Pouncey, served as head coach; Daniel Winstead of Philadelphia, Randall Lee of Decatur and Bob Posey of Philadelphia; and back, from left, Joe Sharp of Flowood, Mike Hawthorne of Gray, Ga.; Chris Perry of Decatur, Joe Douglas of Newnan, Ga.; Fred Lyons of Decatur, Joe Killens of Philadelphia and Phil Smith of Decatur. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF October 14, 2012

ECCC Foundation Receives Record $2.68 Million Gift

Published: 10/16 4:23 pm

Updated: 10/16 4:26 pm

ECCC News Release:

ECCC Foundation Receives Record $2.68 Million Gift; Funds Designated for Guaranteed Tuition Scholarships

Scholarships will be available for qualified high school graduates who reside in the five-county service area of East Central Community College (ECCC) in 2014-15, thanks to a generous donation from an alumna who included the College in her estate planning.

The estate of Frances Gaines Blum Slagle, a 1940 ECCC graduate and former Decatur resident, recently presented the ECCC Foundation with approximately $2.68 million in cash, stocks and certificates of deposit to be used to establish student scholarships. This gift represents the largest single donation ever received by the institution and one of the largest gifts ever receivec by a community college in the state of Mississippi.

ECCC President Dr. Billy W. Stewart made the announcement during a press conference held today (Tuesday, Oct. 9) in the Thrash Auditorium, located in Newton Hall on the Decatur campus. The press conference was broadcast live on the College's Web site (www.eccc.edu) and at various video-conferencing sites throughout the ECCC district.

Dr. Stewart announced that $50,000 will be used to endow the Willis E. Blum and Frances Blum Slagle Scholarship, and the remaining $2.63 million will be used to endow the Children of Andrew Gaines and Inez Gaines: Marjorie Mansfield, Mary George Pace, Frances Gaines Blum Slagle, Virginia Gaines Smith and Geneva Gaines Boring Tuition Guarantee Scholarship.

Details for both scholarships are currently being developed, but Dr. Stewart stated interest earned from the $2.63 million contribution will be used to guarantee tuition for the freshman year – currently $940 per semester – for high school graduates who reside in Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties and enroll as freshman students at ECCC the fall semester immediately following high school graduation. The tuition guarantee scholarship is slated to begin in the Fall of 2014 and will be used to "complete" the cost of tuition for the Fall and Spring semesters of the freshman year at ECCC.

ECCC's eighth president further explained how the funds will be utilized.

"Details are still being worked out, but the tuition guarantee scholarship will ensure that tuition for a high school graduate residing in one of our five counties and enrolling at ECCC the fall semester immediately following high school graduation will be covered for the Fall and Spring semesters of his/her freshman year," he stated. "I should emphasize that funds from the endowment will be used to complete the cost of tuition for students, or serve as a 'gap-filler' scholarship. In other words, if a student is already receiving $940 or more through grants, other scholarships, and/or state or federal financial aid, then the tuition guarantee scholarship will not provide funding for that student. However, if a student receives less than $940 in funding from other sources, then the guarantee tuition scholarship will provide the difference between the funds received and the amount needed to pay for tuition." Dr. Stewart also explained, "We hope to have details of the scholarship solidified soon, and once that is done, those details will be released to the general public in the college's service area."

Although the tuition guarantee scholarship currently will only apply to qualified high school graduates who reside in Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties and enroll as freshman students at ECCC the fall semester immediately following high school graduation, Dr. Stewart said efforts are under way to "permanently provide the cost of tuition" for our district students

"We plan to meet with our local elected officials, area businesses and industries, and other individuals in hopes of making the tuition guarantee scholarship available on a permanent basis and to more residents of our five counties," said Dr. Stewart.

During his remarks, Dr. Stewart also mentioned how he was first informed of the generous gift to the college following a conversation with Mrs. Slagle's niece, Carole Pace Henry of Madison, MS, a 1957 ECCC graduate, who was recently honored as ECCC's Alumna of the Year, in recognition of "outstanding achievement, loyalty and service to East Central Community College."

"Carole informed me that 'Aunt Fran' (as she was commonly referred) loved EC and was a warm, kind and generous woman. I certainly think all those qualities are demonstrated through this substantial gift to the Foundation. I am confident that many

fox40tv.com ✓

WEEK OF _____

students will be presented the opportunity to continue his/her education at ECCC because of the generosity of Aunt Fran. What a wonderful legacy to leave," said Dr. Stewart.

Slagle died at age 94 on May 11, 2012, in Evans, GA. A "Celebration of Life" service was held in the Georgia Room of Brandon Wilde Life Care Community in Evans.

She owned and operated Carlson Travel Agency in Sebring, Fla. She enjoyed traveling and lived in various places around the world, including Germany, Jamaica, Japan and Panama.

She was preceded in death by her first husband, Lt. Col. Willis Eugene Bill Blum, and her second husband, Capt. Lowell E. Woody Slagle. Both men are buried at Arlington National Cemetery in recognition of their outstanding military service. Mrs. Slagle was recognized as a "Gold Star" wife and was instrumental in obtaining retirement benefits for wives of servicemen killed in action. She too was laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery.

She was also preceded in death by a stepson, Capt. Lowell Elwood "Woody" Slagle Jr. and a grandson, David Blum.

Survivors include her son, Charles F. Blum; daughter, Deborah Kay Stamper; stepson, Thomas D. Slagle and his wife, Jackie; stepdaughter, Sandra S. Slagle; step-daughter-in-law, Betty Slagle; two grandchildren, Morgan Wooton and Lisa Moschin; two great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews, including Libby M. Wynn, Gloria M. Miller and Carole Pace Henry.

A Minter City, MS, native, Slagle attended Decatur High School and continued her education at then East Central Junior College, where she was a member of the "Warriorette" basketball squad. She also attended Clarke-Venable Baptist Church in Decatur. She received a degree in travel administration from Columbia University in Columbia, MO.

For more information on the Guaranteed Tuition Scholarship, contact ECCC Student Services, 601-635-6205 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 205. The e-mail address is rlee@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF October 14, 2012

Wins ECCC 5K walk honors

Taking top honors in the Walkers Division of the annual East Central Community College Homecoming 5K Walk/Run were, from left, Pam Steverson, first place, retired ECCC President Dr. Phil Sutphin and his wife, Peggy, of Decatur who tied for second place.

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WEEK OF October 14, 2012

ECCC 5K run winners

These runners took top honors in the annual East Central Community College Homecoming 5K Run/Walk held Saturday, Sept. 29 on the Decatur campus. First place winners include (seated, from left) Jesse Vaughn of Decatur, Overall Winner; Mike Thraikil of Hickory, Overall Masters Male (age 40-50); Lanette Hanna of Union, Overall Masters Female; Howard Crenshaw of Newton, Overall Grand Masters Male (age 50+), Teresa Tillman of Union, Overall Grand Masters Female; Dylan Barnett of Decatur (Ages 0-12 Male) and Kayla Baucum of Newton (Ages 0-12 Female); and (back row, from left) McGee Ledbetter of Columbus (Ages 13-19 Male), Miguel Lewis of Forest (Ages 20-29 Male), Rachel Field of Decatur (Ages 20-29 Female), Hal Thompson of Decatur (Ages 30-39 Male), Tamara Gentry of Canton (Ages 30-39 Female), J.P. Watson of Philadelphia (Ages 40-49 Male) and Lori McMullan of Decatur (Ages 40-49 Female). Not pictured are Nina LaBue of Conehatta, Overall Female; Tabby LaBue of Conehatta (Ages 13-19 Female) and Todd Wall of Brandon (Ages 50-59 Male). Vaughn finished with a time of 17:57. ECCC social science instructor Dr. Philip Crenshaw served as race director. (EC Photo)

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These East Central Community College faculty members were recently selected to attend the annual Lamplighters Conference, which honors outstanding community and junior college instructors throughout the state. Lamplighters and their respective teaching areas include (from left) Patrick Stokely of Decatur, biology; Lori Luke of Newton, associate degree nursing; and Thomas Fortenberry of Union, computer network support technology . This year's conference was hosted by Pearl River Community College.

EC photo

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WEEK OF October 21, 2012

ECCC named military friendly school

From school reports

East Central Community College in Decatur was recently recognized as a Military Friendly School, according to G.I. Jobs magazine.

The publication included ECCC in the top 15 percent of all colleges, universities and trade schools nationwide in providing educational services to military students following a survey of more than 12,000 schools.

ECCC staff members Jessica Gibson, coordinator of veteran's affairs and enrollment services, and David Case, dean of admissions, records and research, were presented a plaque signifying the honor.

ECCC President Billy Stewart said of the special recognition:

"East Central is extremely proud to be included on the list of 2013 Military Friendly Colleges. Our college has a strong commitment to our country's men and women in the military and will continue to provide high-quality programs to assist them in meeting their educational goals."

For more information on educational opportunities for military students, contact Jessica Gibson, Admissions, Records and Research, 601-635-6392 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 392. Her e-mail address is jgibson@eccc.edu.

Retired educators meet Oct. 25 at ECCC

The Newton County Chapter of the Retired Education Personnel of Mississippi will meet on Oct. 25 at 1:30 p.m. in the East Central Community College Gold Room.

Brad Young, black bear Program leader with the Miss. Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks, will present the program.

Young, who lives in Madison, said the presentation will give a brief history of the role bears have played in Mississippi's history, their current status, efforts to conserve the bears that are currently living in our state, and what the future holds for the Mississippi black bear.

Black bear numbers are increasing in Mississippi.

Documentation of newborn cubs combined with increased sightings leave little doubt that bears are slowly returning to our state's natural lands.

With increasing bear numbers comes a need for increased understanding about black bears.

Because these animals have been absent from Mississippi for so long, little is known of their habits or how we can co exist with these shy and secretive animals.

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WEEK OF October 27, 2012

East Central Community College

» **Teresa L. Houston** has been selected vice president for instruction at the college in Decatur. She previously was associate dean of instruction at East Mississippi Community College on the Mayhew campus. Houston began her community college career as a mathematics instructor at EMCC and also served

Teresa Houston

Mississippi State University in Starkville in leadership positions in the Mississippi Alliance for Minority Participation program and the Increasing Minority Access to Graduate Education Summer Bridge Program. She was named associate dean of instruction at EMCC's Scooba campus. She has a bachelor's degree in mathematics, a master's in secondary mathematics and a doctor of philosophy in community college leadership, all from MSU.

» **Denita Thomas** of Noxapater has been named dean of Healthcare Education. She previously was a member of the college's associate degree nursing faculty. Thomas works as a family practitioner with Quality Hospice in Philadelphia. She previously served as a family nurse practitioner with Neshoba Pediatric Medical Clinic in Philadelphia and also worked at Magna Home Health of Philadelphia and Louisville Group Homes-Hudspeth Center of Louisville. She has bachelor's and master's degrees in nursing from the University of Southern Mississippi.

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WEEK OF October 28, 2012

ECCC Board

Serving on East Central Community College's Board of Trustees in 2012 are (first row, from left) Edsel Cliburn, Union; Van Lucas, Newton; Dr. Danny Lanier, Little Rock; Rebecca Farris, Morton; Beverly Ware, Union; Annie Stowers, Forest; Janie Wilbanks, Carthage; Patsy Clark, Louisville; and Jerry Smith (Board Vice Chairman), Philadelphia; (second row, from left) Delane Hudson, Louisville; W. B. Jones, Walnut Grove; Rodney Bounds, Newton; William E. Kitchings, Carthage; Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth (Board Chairman), Lake; Bingham Moncrief of Morton, Scott County Supt. of Education; Tommy Dearing, Neshoba County Supt. of Education and Prentice Copeland, both of Philadelphia; and Patrick Posey of Carthage, Leake County Supt. of Education; and (back row, from left) Ricky Goldman, Philadelphia; Vernon Crotwell, Morton; Randal Livingston and Jerry Nance, both of Louisville; Leo Parker, Noxapater; J.O. Amis of Decatur, Newton County Supt. of Education; Dr. William Wade of Louisville, Winston County Supt. of Education; Alan D. Rhea, Carthage; Pat Cleveland, Conehatta; and David Byars, Philadelphia. Not pictured are Royce Shaw (Board Secretary) of Forest and Dr. Kimsey Cooper of Carthage. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF October 28, 2012

ECCC ABE/GED Instructors - Scott County

Serving as East Central Community College's Adult Basic Education/GED-Preparation instructors in Scott County are (from left) Zann Nutt of Morton and Pharen Nelson and Yolanda Wright, both of Forest. Not pictured are instructors Teresa Lovett of Morton and Modean Cross of Pelahatchie. Classes are offered free of charge from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Monday and Tuesday at the Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center, and from 10 a.m.to 5 p.m. Mondays at the Morton Public Library. ESL classes are offered from 5 to 8 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday at the Forest High School Library. ECCC provides free ABE/GED classes at various locations in the College's support district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties. For more information, contact Ryan Clarke, Director of Adult Basic Education and GED, 601-635-6387 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 387. The e-mail address is rclarke@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF October 28, 2012

Carson honored

Alumnus and retired East Central Community College Director of Bands Thomas W. Carson, right, of Decatur was honored by the Mississippi Junior and Community College Band Directors' Association during the Warriors' home football finale Thursday night. He was presented a plaque by Michael Bass, left), President of the MJCCBDA and Director of Bands at Pearl River Community College. Mr. Carson retired in June after 30 years of service at EC. During his tenure, the Wall O' Sound grew from a band of 25 to more than 180 members. Carson also served as president of the state band association from 1989 to 1990 and from 2001 to 2002. He served as Fine Arts Department Chairman from 2009 to 2012. He continues to serve as director of the Collegians, the College's rock and roll band. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF October 28, 2012

ECCC's ABE/GED instructors

Serving as East Central Community College's Adult Basic Education/GED-Preparation instructors in Neshoba County are, from left, June Fulton, Susan Hisaw, Virginia Kight and Barbara Booker, all of Philadelphia. Classes are offered free of charge from 8 a.m. to noon Tuesday and Thursday, and from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Monday and Thursday at the Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career-Technical Center. ECCC provides free classes at various locations in the College's support district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF November 4, 2012

Decatur, ECCC to Salute Veterans

Military veterans will be guests of honor when Celebration of Freedom 2012 is held Saturday, Nov. 10, in downtown Decatur and at East Central Community College's Bailey Stadium.

Activities begin at 10 a.m. with a parade in downtown Decatur. Veterans of World War II and the Korean Conflict are receiving special recognition at this year's event and will be a part of the parade lineup along with ECCC's Wall O' Sound Marching Band and several area high school bands.

Special recognition continues for the World War II and Korean Conflict heroes who will be provided a complimentary lunch by EC's SkillsUSA members at Bailey Stadium.

A concession stand will be available for the public to purchase lunch. The public is also invited to visit the Memorabilia Room located in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building, and the military displays (including a helicopter and military service vehicles) and antique auto display available at Bailey Stadium. The self-guided events will be available from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

A patriotic concert featuring EC's Wall O' Sound and the Ac'cents, the College's show choir, begins at noon at Bailey Stadium.

The Celebration of Freedom Ceremony is scheduled to start at 12:30 p.m., also at Bailey Stadium.

Program participants and order of service include Dr. Mike Grevey, master of ceremonies, special presentation; ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart, welcome; Chaplain Hank Moreau, LTC, US Army (Retired); 204th ADA-Newton, presentation of colors; Sonya Smith, national anthem followed by a flyover by the MS Air National Guard in Meridian; Brigadier General Mitchell L. Brown, Veterans Day remarks; Lt. Gen. (Retired) William L. Freeman, Jr., guest speaker; Major General (Retired) William L. (Bill) Waller, Jr., keynote speaker; Kenneth Harris, president, Newton County Board of Supervisors, presentation of resolution honoring World War II veterans; Pat O'Neill, Mayor of Decatur, presentation of resolution honoring Korean Conflict veterans; Dr. McGrevey, special recognition of World War II and Korean Conflict veterans; Colonel Harry D. Hastings, US Army (Retired), veterans' response; ECCC Music Department/Boy Scout Troop 46, salute to the Armed Forces; James Davis and Sam Williams, wreath laying; ECCC Wall O' Sound Band, playing of Taps; Dianne Smith, committee chairman, balloon release remarks; and ECCC Ac'cents performance of God Bless America.

Activities conclude with a balloon release ceremony as family members and friends honoring their respective military heroes.

The public is invited to attend the event and show support and appreciation of all who have served or continue to serve our country.

For more information on Celebration of Freedom 2012, contact the Town of Decatur, 601-635-2761.

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WEEK OF November 4, 2012

ECCC staff thinks pink

These East Central Community College staff members dressed in pink attire Monday, Oct.29 in support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Shown above are (front, from left) Dr. Lisa McMillin, computer science instructor/division chairman; and Christy Ferguson, business technology instructor; (second row, from left) Dr. Evadna Lyons, associate degree nursing instructor; Jenna Wright, math instructor; and Lanette Hanna, academic counselor; (third row, from left) Christy Savell, associate degree nursing instructor; Romonica Evans, Career Center director/academic counselor; and Robin Fulton, math instructor; and (back row, from left) Dr. Billy Stewart, president; Michael Alexander, academic counselor; and Mickey Vance, vice president for business operations. "Think Pink Day" was sponsored by the College's Phi Beta Lambda chapter. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF November 4, 2012

GED teachers at ECCC

Serving as East Central Community College's Adult Basic Education/GED-Preparation instructors in Newton County are (seated from left) Susan Neal of Union, and Jeanne Vares and Mary Burt, both of Newton; and (standing from left) Ed McGowan of Lawrence, Robin Milling of Decatur and Bryan Burt of Newton.

ECCC provides free classes at various locations in the college's support district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties. For more information, contact Ryan Clarke, director of Adult Basic Education and GED, 601-635-6387 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 387. The e-mail address is rclarke@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF November 4, 2012

Kevin Ryals selected ECCC humanities instructor of year

East Central Community College in Decatur recently announced Kevin Ryals of Louisville as the College's 2012 Mississippi Humanities Council Teacher of the Year selection.

Each year, the Mississippi Humanities Council honors one faculty member from each of the state's community colleges and four-year colleges and universities.

In recognition of his selection, Ryals presented a program titled "A Legacy of Teaching: Through the Generations" on Monday, Oct. 15, in Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium.

During his presentation, he will discuss the rich legacy of teaching through the eyes of three different teachers whose lives span from 1879 to the present.

"There are several reasons I chose my topic," Ryals said. "One is because of the impact many teachers have had on my life. Another reason is because of the love of preserving the past that my grandmother instilled in me. A final reason is because of the desire I have to be a positive influence on my students."

Kevin Ryals

Ryals, who teaches oral communications, joined the ECCC faculty in 2004 and previously served 11 years as a retirement planning specialist.

In addition to his teaching duties, he has served as co-advisor for Students Against Destructive Decisions.

He was selected HEADWAE (Higher Education Appreciation Day: Working for Academic Excellence) Instructor of the Year in 2007 and represented East Central at the annual Lamplighter Conference, which honors outstanding community and junior college instructors, in 2008.

Ryals received the Bachelor of Arts Degree in Communication Management from Mississippi State University in 1990 and the Master of Science Degree in Speech Communication from the University of Southern Mississippi in 1992.

He is married to the former Shonna Harvey of Kosciusko, who is an English teacher at Kosciusio High School and also serves as an adjunct instructor at ECCC. They have a 15-year-old son, Peyton, who attends Kosciusko High School.

The Ryals are members of First Baptist Church, Louisville, where he serves as a deacon and Sunday school teacher. Kevin, Shonna and Peyton have traveled the last three summers to Jimbe, Peru, to do mission work and teach English classes.

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WEEK OF November 18, 2017

Showing their pink

Numerous East Central Community College staff members show their support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month by wearing "pink" recently. Pictured are (first row, from left) Virgie Thames, administrative assistant for Small Business Development Center; Kimberly Mott, workforce development marketing specialist; Laura Thorne, accountant; Lynn French, accounts payable clerk; and Felicity Purvis, assistant director of financial aid/work study; (second row, from left) Michaelle Smith, bookstore manager; Leslie Cleveland, bookstore clerk; Hilda Slaughter, accounting clerk; Angie Bradley, assistant director of financial aid loans; and Bridgett Hitt, financial aid administrative assistant; and (back row, from left) Joey Kenna, Wired Grant Community Development facilitator; Megan Rigsby, business office clerk; Joseph Knight, director of workforce development; and Joe Barrett, workforce development coordinator. "Think Pink Day" was sponsored by the college's Phi Beta Lambda chapter.

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WEEK OF November 18 2012

EC students, public can soon 'Google' to locate campus facilities

Students who need to know the exact location of a campus facility or classroom at East Central Community College in Decatur will soon be able access the information with the use of Google, which recently released an "indoor navigation tool" as part of its Google Mobile Maps.

Specifically designed for Android smartphone and tablet users, the new technology allows users "to quickly and efficiently navigate through indoor spaces, picking up where GPS leaves off," according to information provided on Google's Web site. There is no charge for the service.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart said ECCC is pleased to serve as an educational partner with Google in providing the service not only to students but for the public as well.

"The Google Indoor Mapping service is a great tool for new and prospective students and guests of the College who may not know where a room or an office is located in a particular building," said Dr. Stewart. "This information will also be useful to law enforcement in the event of a campus emergency."

Instructor Chris Ryals and his drafting and design technology students are in the process of uploading drawings for each building to be included in the Google search.

"Our students are very excited about the opportunity to partner with Google in this project," Ryals said. "We are also excited that East Central Community College is the first Mississippi community college to announce a partnership with Google Indoor Maps."

Google indoor mapping is a relatively new initiative from Google started in 2011.

Dr. Stewart said ECCC plans to have Google Indoor Maps ready for implementation by the fall 2013 semester.

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WEEK OF December 2, 2012

Choctaw princess visits ECCC

The reigning Choctaw Indian Princess Shaye MacKinzie Scott recently visited East Central Community College's Daycare Center in Decatur. She told the students about her duties as the tribe's princess and read stories to the children. Scott is a graduate of Leake Central High School. She is the daughter of Rodney and Tina Scott of the Standing Pine community.

ECCC photo

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WEEK OF December 16, 2012

ECCC COLLECTS TOYS FOR TOTS

Courtesy of East Central Community College

Several boxes of toys and other gifts were recently collected by East Central Community College staff members and students for the annual Toys for Tots campaign sponsored by the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve. The Decatur campus project was coordinated by the Career-Technical Division and led by SkillsUSA. Shown with the more than 500 items to be distributed to needy children are LCPL Kenneth M. Sturgis (left) and HM1 Jose C. Hernandez (right), both from the Armed Forces Reserve Center in Jackson, and ECCC sophomore Chanss Thaggard of Madden, SkillsUSA president.

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WEEK OF December 16, 2012

ECCC recognized for growth, aca

East Central Community College in Decatur is considered one of the fastest growing community colleges in the nation, according to the November 26, 2012, issue of Community College Week!

East Central is ranked sixth among community colleges with enrollments from 2,500 to 4,999, as stated in the report, which listed the top 50 community colleges in each enrollment category.

The College earned the recognition due to a 14 percent enrollment increase from 2010 (2,675) to 2011 (3,049).

"We want East Central Community College to be recognized nationally as a premier community college and locally as the preferred gateway to higher education and training for residents of east central Mississippi, due to our focus on students and their success and our commitment to communities and their development," said ECCC President Dr. Billy W. Stewart.

Dr. Stewart also noted the College's academic success as indicated by the most recent report from Mississippi's Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL). The report stated EC students who transferred to the state's public four-year institutions achieved the highest grade point average (3.18) compared to trans-

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success

vite students of all ages to join the East Central family as we continue to strive for excellence in all we do."

Registration for the 2013 spring semester is scheduled Friday, January 4.

Day and evening classes begin Monday, January 7.

APPEARED IN:

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

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WEEK OF December 14, 2012

Woodmen donates flag to ECCC

Representatives from Woodmen of the World donated a flag to East Central Community College recently for the college to fly at its soccer field. Present were Cathy Dilmore, Richard Stamper, ECCC President Billy Stewart, Felicia Blackburn and Linda Milling.

APPEARED IN:

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ECCC sees new president, record gift in '12

March 28: Stewart tapped to lead ECCC

An administrator from Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College in Perkinston has emerged from four finalists to become the next president of East Central Community College in Decatur.

Billy W. Stewart, vice president for Administration and Finance at MGCCC, was unanimously selected ECCC's eighth president at the Board of Trustees meeting March 20.

Board of Trustees Chairman Jimmy Hollingsworth said Stewart and Michael J. "Mike" McGrevey, were recommended for the top post following interviews of four finalists conducted by the Presidential Search Committee, composed of Board of Trustees members representing the college's district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties.

"Dr. Stewart brings great community college experience and a dynamic vision for the future of ECCC," Hollingsworth said.

Stewart, MGCCC's Administrator of the Year for 2011-12, said he looks forward to taking ECCC to even greater levels of excellence.

"I am excited about working with the ECCC family and building upon the foundation as set forth by Dr. Phil Sutphin, Dr. Eddie M. Smith and the other former presidents," Stewart said.

The other top candidates were Randall E. Lee, ECCC vice president for Student Services; and Andrea Mayfield, vice president for Academic Instruction /Institutional Research and Effectiveness/SACS Liaison at East Mississippi Community College in Scooba.

Stewart succeeds Phil A. Sutphin, who earlier announced plans to retire on June 30, following 12 years of service leading the institution.

Prior to joining the MGCCC staff, Stewart served as Dean of Copiah-Lincoln Community College's Simpson County Center in Mendenhall.

Stewart's education experience also includes the secondary education level. He served as assistant principal at Pearl High School from July 1993 to June 1994. He began his employment at the school in July 1990 as a social studies instructor.

Stewart is a graduate of USM, where he received a bachelor's degree in history/teacher education in 1990 and earned a master's degree in curriculum and instruction/history in 1993. He was selected Mr. University of Southern Mississippi and is a member of the USM Hall of Fame.

He completed a doctorate in school administration with emphasis in Higher Education/Community College Administration from Mississippi State University in 1997.

Stewart and his wife, Stephanie, have four school-age children — Stephen, Will, Elizabeth and Emily.

Oct. 9: ECCC announces record gift

Scholarships will be available for qualified high school graduates who reside in the five-county service area of East Central Community College in 2014-15, thanks to a generous donation from an alumna who included the College in her estate planning.

The estate of Frances Gaines Blum Slagle, a 1940 ECCC graduate and former Decatur resident, recently presented the ECCC Foundation with approximately $2.68 million in cash, stocks, and certificates of deposit to be used to establish student scholarships. This gift represents the largest single donation ever received by the institution and one of the largest gifts ever received by a community college in the state of Mississippi.

ECCC President Billy W. Stewart made the announcement during a press conference held Oct. 9.

Stewart announced that $50,000 will be used to endow the Willis E. Blum and Frances Blum Slagle Scholarship, and the remaining $2.63 million will be used to endow the Children of Andrew Gaines and Inez Gaines: Marjorie Mansfield, Mary George Pace, Frances Gaines Blum Slagle, Virginia Gaines Smith and Geneva Gaines Boring Tuition Guarantee Scholarship.

The tuition guarantee scholarship is slated to begin in the Fall of 2014 and will be used to "complete" the cost of tuition for the Fall and Spring semesters of the freshman year at ECCC.

ECCC's eighth president further explained how the funds will be utilized.

"Details are still being worked out, but the tuition guarantee scholarship will ensure that tuition for a high school graduate residing in one of our five counties and enrolling at ECCC the fall semester immediately following high school graduation will be covered for the Fall and Spring semesters of his/her freshman year," he said.

"I should emphasize that funds from the endowment be used to complete the co tuition for students, or serv a 'gap-filler' scholarship other words, if a student i ready receiving $940 or n through grants, other sch ships, and/or state or feder nancial aid, then the tui guarantee scholarship will provide funding for that dent. However, if a studen ceives less than $940 in fun from other sources, then guarantee tuition scholar will provide the difference tween the funds received the amount needed to pay tuition."

Although the tuition gua tee scholarship currently only apply to qualified school graduates who resid Leake, Neshoba, Newton, S and Winston counties and roll as freshman student ECCC the fall semester im diately following high sc graduation, Stewart said forts are under way to "per nently provide the cost tuition" for our district dents.

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WEEK OF December 30, 2012

ECCC to host public forum

From press reports

East Central Community College (ECCC) has been serving the educational needs of the communities since 1928. With an open-door policy and affordable tuition, the College has affected the lives of countless individuals who would otherwise not have had the opportunity to achieve their educational goals.

With that in mind the College has embarked on a strategic planning process titled 2020 Vision. "20/20 vision" is a term used to express the sharpness or clarity of vision at a distance. As such, the college administration wants the 2020 Vision strategic plan to provide a clear picture as to where the college is headed and what they want to achieve by the year 2020.

So far, this process has

ECCC, see page 9

ECCC

Continued from page 1

included a review of the college's mission and core values in order to solidify institutional commitments necessary to achieve the vision.

This is college hopes to gain personal insights from community members to ensure that broad and diverse input is collected as they develop a strategic plan. Therefore, ECCC will participate in Public Forums throughout the five-county service area to solicit feedback from members of the community on the future of the College.

The public forum in Winston County will be held at Lake Tiak O'Khata on January 16 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

"As the community's college we want to know how members of the community see the College now and in the future," stated school president Bill W. Stewart.

APPEARED IN:

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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Week of February 5, 2012

Moving On From East Central Community College

Name	Signed With
Chris Ficklin	Northern Arizona University
Reggie Hall	University of West Alabama
Tyler Robinson	University of West Alabama
Andre Lucious	Delta State University
Rickey Cavanaugh	Midwestern State University
Jerrell Priester	University of Kentucky
Kory Brown	University of Kentucky
Dennis Thames	Mississippi State University
Jesse Blakemore	Belhaven College
Darious Wren	Belhaven College
Simesi Tupou	University of Idaho
Corey Collier	Miles College
Tyrone Williams	Carson-Newman College

Appeared in:

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Newton County Appeal ✓

Spirit of Morton_____

Meridian Star_____

Neshoba Democrat_____

Scott County Times_____

Winston County Journal____

Clarion-Ledger_____

WEEK OF February 5, 2012

East Central Community College Signees

Name	Height	Weight	Pos.	High School
Dava'is Shaffer	5'10	215	RB	Louisville
Cashmere Dawson	6'0	175	WR	Leake Central
Martin Johnson	5'10	190	RB	Nanih Waiya
Wesley Smith	6'1	180	WR	Morton
Tyler Hatch	6'2	190	QB	Southaven
Donnie Farmer	6'0	190	ATH	Harrison Central
Chris Rice	5'10	185	RB	Southaven
Issac Brown	5'9	200	RB	Pearl
Ben Hodges	6'1	225	RB	Pearl
James Booth	6'1	235	RB	Harrison Central
Darius Petty	5'10	180	WR	New Hope
Daniel Gregory	6'3	190	WR	New Hope
James Clark	6'3	190	WR	Laurel
Toriante Hinton	5'7	150	WR	Provine
Tevin McInnis	5'9	165	WR	Laurel
Blake Roberts	6'2	210	TE	Petal
Jamie Gomez	5'11	180	WR	Harrison Central
Joseph Reeves	6'2	270	DT	New Hope
Jeff Johnson	6'1	225	DE	Southaven
Blake Graves	5'10	220	LB	Presbyterian Christian
Daniel Myrick	6'0	210	LB	Northwest Rankin
Jordan Grayson	6'1	210	LB	Lawrence County
Zach Thigpen	5'10	205	LB	Laurel
Seth McDonald	5'10	210	LB	West Jones
Marcus Knighton	6'0	225	LB	Laurel
Chris Applewhite	6'0	170	DB	Laurel
Robert Ducksworth	5'9	175	DB	Oak Grove
Randolyn Smith	6'0	180	DB	Southaven
Austin Franklin	6'1	175	P/K	Petal

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WEEK OF July 1, 2012

Warrior football awards

Members of the 2011 East Central Community College football team who received honors at the annual Fall Sports Awards Banquet are (seated from left) linebacker Darius Wren and cornerback/running back Jerrell Priester, both honorable mention MACJC All-State; linebacker/running back Chris Ficklin (Captain Award, Most Valuable Defensive Player, All-Region 23, and first team MACJC All-State for second straight year, honorable mention NJCAA All-American in 2010 and second team NJCAA All-American for 2011), and wide receiver/corner back/return specialist Reggie Hall (Most Valuable Offensive Player, second team MACJC All-State in 2010 and 2011). Standing are defensive lineman Semisi Tupou (honorable mention MACJC All-State), offensive lineman Tate Rogers (Captain and Academic awards, MACJC All-Star, and second team MACJC All-State), linebacker Tyrone Williams (honorable mention MACJC All-State), and offensive lineman Andre Lucious (Academic Award and honorable mention MACJC All-State). Not pictured is punter Rob Moffett (second team MACJC All-State).

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF July 29, 2012

APPEARED IN:

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SPIRIT OF MORTON ____ STON COUNTY JOURNAL ____

MERIDIAN STAR ____ RION-LEDGER ____

ECCC Warriors host five opponents in 2012

By Marty Stamper
sports@newtoncountyappeal.com

Brian Anderson enters his fourth year as head football coach at East Central Community College this fall with the Warriors having five of their nine games at home. In fact, four of EC's first five games are set for Decatur.

EC finished 2-7 in 2011, the Warriors' third consecutive 2-7 showing. New recruiting rules in the MACJC could help the Warriors improve on that mark in 2012.

East Central opens the 2012 football season with a pair of home games. The Warriors host Itawamba on Aug. 30 and East Mississippi on Sept. 6 in a pair of 6:30 p.m. non-division Thursday night contests.

It will be EC's first game with East Mississippi since the 2007 season when EC posted a 31-20 victory. The Warriors have won the last six games in the series.

The Warriors hit the road on Sept. 13 for their MACJC South Division opener with Copiah-Lincoln at Wesson at 7 p.m.

EC returns home to take on Southwest Mississippi on Sept. 20 at 6:30 p.m. in division play.

Homecoming comes early for the Warriors this season as they face Hinds in the annual afternoon contest on Sept. 29. Kickoff is set for 2:30 p.m.

On Oct. 6, EC travels to Ellisville to square off with Jones in the Bobcats' homecoming affair at 3 p.m.

The Warriors play their final non-division game on October 11 when they travel to Moorhead to take on Mississippi Delta at p.m.

On Oct. 18, the Warr host Pearl River in t home finale at 6:30 p.m

EC closes out the re lar season on Oct. 27 p.m. when the Warrior to Perkinston to play M sissippi Gulf Coast.

August 12-2012

THE MERIDIAN STAR
Thursday, August 16, 2012

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Paula Merritt/The Meridian Star

East Central Community College's KeiVondre Watford leaps over a Pearl River Community College defender last season. Watford, a Southern Miss commit, is one of the Warriors' top returning offensive weapons as ECCC looks for its first winning season in 10 years.

Warriors, Anderson excited about opportunity

By Jamie Wachter
jwachter@themeridianstar.com

Wins may have been hard to come by in recent seasons for East Central Community College but that hasn't dimmed the enthusiasm for Warriors coach Brian Anderson.

As the Warriors prepare for the Aug. 30 opener against Itawamba Community College, Anderson is excited about his team's chances to snap a 10-year skid of losing seasons.

"Everybody's excited right now," he said. "Everybody's undefeated and optimistic about the season and just excited to get the season started.

"If I didn't think we could do it here, heck I would have found something else to do somewhere else. And I'm excited about the season and excited about East Central and excited about our team and the players that we have. Just ready to get out there and let them play."

Part of that excitement comes from a deeper and improved quarterback position. After injuries and turnovers plagued the position a year ago for ECCC, Anderson is ready to see what Florida Atlantic transfer Colton Kane can bring to the Warriors.

"It all revolves around the quarterback position and offensive line play and being able to protect the football," Anderson said. "We really feel solid about quarterback position, we really feel good about Colton Kane, he's a transfer from Florida Atlantic University. He's got a good head on his shoulders and we feel solid about all of our quarterbacks and what they bring to the table. We have three solid young men at the quarterback position with great leadership ability and they all bring something to the table. It's a unique position for us because we haven't had the luxury of having several good quarterbacks in."

Those quarterbacks have a pair of reliable targets in return-

See WARRIORS on page 35

WARRIORS AT A GLANCE

2011 record: 2-7
2010 finish: Beat Southwest Mississippi 41-28 in regular season finale
Head coach: Brian Anderson (third year, 4-14)
League: MACJC South Division

Anderson

2012 schedule

Aug. 30	Itawamba
Sept. 6	East Mississippi
Sept. 13	at Copiah-Lincoln
Sept. 20	Southwest Mississippi
Sept. 29	Hinds
Oct. 6	at Jones County
Oct. 13	at Mississippi Delta
Oct. 18	Pearl River
Oct. 27	at Mississippi Gulf Coast

2011 results

Northeast Mississippi	27-40
Northwest Mississippi	19-42
Itawamba	24-17
Pearl River	13-31
Hinds	19-31
Mississippi Gulf Coast	21-37
Jones County	7-28
Copiah-Lincoln	6-7
Southwest Mississippi	41-28

Last 10 years

2011	2-7
2010	2-7
2009	2-7
2008	4-5
2007	2-7
2006	2-7
2005	3-4
2004	4-5
2003	2-7
2002	3-6

10-year record: 26-62

WEEK OF _____

WARRIORS from page 34

ing receivers KeiVondre Watford and Brock Hall. Watford is a Southern Miss commit and someone the Warriors plan to utilize more in the coming season.

"KeiVondre, we're going to ask a lot more out of him than what we did last year in the passing game," he said. "Last year, he was pretty much a run blocker for us and we really used him like a tight end. But this year we're going to get him more involved in the passing game.

"Brock has really improved his body a lot and the weight room has really been good to him this offseason. He's matured a lot off the field as well, just the natural progression from a freshman to a sophomore has been very evident in him."

Anderson also is excited about the potential running back Julian Shipp brings as well as a talented offensive line led by center Kyron Samuels, who was the No. 8 center recruit in the country coming out of high school, and returning starter Bart Whigham at tackle.

Even with talented playmakers, Anderson said there won't be one star for the Warriors. Rather, ECCC is focusing

After you win the first national championship in school history, what do you do for an encore?

That is the question facing East Mississippi Community College after the Lions capped the program's first unbeaten season by defeating top-ranked Arizona Western 55-47 in the El Toro Bowl to secure the NJCAA national title. And Lions coach Buddy Stephens' answer is to not worry about trying to repeat. Rather, he wants EMCC to worry about one thing — Pearl River on Aug. 30.

"It's a tough act to follow, it really is," he said. "And my job is to make sure the players understand that they can't win a national title right now. You win it one game and one week at a time.

2011 finish: Beat Arizona Western 55-47 in El Toro Bowl to win NJCAA national championship

Stephens

Head coach: Buddy Stephens (fifth year, 36-8)

League: MACJC North Division

2012 schedule

Aug. 30	Pearl River
Sept. 6	at East Central
Sept. 13	at Southwest Mississippi
Sept. 20	Mississippi Delta
Oct. 6	Holmes
Oct. 11	at Northeast Mississippi
Oct. 18	Northwest Mississippi
Oct. 27	at Itawamba

2011 results

Mississippi Gulf Coast	34-30
Hinds	20-17
Northwest Mississippi	45-42
Itawamba	48-7
Coahoma	56-6
Northeast Mississippi	63-35
Pearl River	41-17
Mississippi Delta	54-0
Holmes	56-35
• Hinds	55-24
• Mississippi Gulf Coast	42-17

"Our most important game is Pearl River because that's the first one and that's the n goal now is the sam

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10-year record: 52-

APPEARED IN:

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF August 19, 2012

ECCC Warriors

Coaches have expectations for success in 2012

By BUBBY JOHNSTON
Special to the Times

Anderson

DECATUR — It's no surprise to East Central Community College head football coach Brian Anderson that his 2012 squad is ranked last in the MACJC South Division pre-season poll.

After all, the 2011 Warriors finished at the bottom of the pack with a 2-7 overall mark and 1-5 slate in league play.

But Anderson, who begins his fourth year leading the Warrior program, said he has "a lot of expectations" for success in the upcoming season. Those expectations are based on a solid group of returnees and a talented freshmen class. Although the Warriors began pre-season workouts only a few days ago (August 9), Anderson said he can already sense that this team is ready to prove itself a winner on the field.

"Everybody is undefeated right now and that brings a certain level of excitement," said Anderson. "We understand why we are ranked low in the polls, but our guys are determined to prove otherwise. It's been a long summer…we've put in a lot of hard work….and the players have put in a lot of hard work while also attending summer classes. We anticipate a great pre-season and look forward to the season opener against Itawamba on August 30."

East Central has a favorable schedule to begin the 2012 campaign, as four of the first five contests will be held at Bailey Stadium on the Decatur campus. However, two of the five opponents — East Mississippi and Hinds — are ranked among the top teams in the NJCAA pre-season poll. The Lions are picked to repeat as national champions and the Eagles are ranked sixth.

"Facing nationally ranked squads early in the season is a great motivating factor for our team," said Anderson. "We want to beat everyone we play, of course, but being able to knock off the defending national champions and other highly ranked teams will be even more special for our program."

Regarding the MACJC predictions, Gulf Coast is expected to win the South, followed by Hinds, Jones County, Copiah-Lincoln, Southwest and ECCC. East Mississippi is the top pick in the North, followed by Northwest, Itawamba, Northeast, Holmes, Coahoma and Delta.

Anderson will be depending on 22 returnees to provide the leadership needed for a successful campaign.

"The sophomores are battle tested…they under-

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ARION-LEDGER

determined to prove pollsters wrong

stand the league and understand how tough it is," said Anderson of the nearly two dozen returnees. "They also understand how a small mistake can turn the course of a ball game…and that sometimes it's the little things that will win ball games…one turnover here, one caused turnover there. That's why we are so excited about our team this year...we have high character kids who know what it takes to win….who know it means something not to let a team score in the fourth quarter…who know it means to punch the ball in for a score from the two-yard line instead of settling for a field goal…who know that it takes a high level of intensity and a willingness to do the things necessary to be a winner."

Anderson considers wide receiver KeiVondre Watford (6-4, 220) of Tuscaloosa Central and defensive lineman Bradley Dorsey (6-6, 380) of Morton as the top offensive and defensive returnees, respectively.

The freshman class is led by quarterback Colton Kane (6-4, 215) of Pensacola, Fla., and a transfer from Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton. Kane is a former standout at Navarre (Fla.) High School, where he received All-Star and Player of the Year honors.

"Colton is a big guy with a big arm who also has mobility," Anderson said of his projected starting signal caller. "He is also a good decision maker….and I'm absolutely pleased with him and his character and leadership ability. I feel confident he has what it takes to successfully lead this football team."

Anderson also had high praise for his freshman kicker, Austin Franklin (6', 180) of Petal.

"We are very pleased with Austin and consider him the best kicker we've had since I have been here," Anderson said. "How he handles pressure in a game situation remains to be seen, but we are excited about him and what he brings to the position."

Anderson added, "So, if you are good at quarterback and good in the kicking game, you have a chance for success."

On the defensive side, Anderson said "speed" best describes this year's squad.

"Ben Brooks (5-9, 175) is the fastest player we've had since I've been here," said Anderson of the sophomore defensive back from Northeast Lauderdale. "Ben will be at one corner and sophomore Steffon Fuller (6-4, 200) of Kemper County will be at the other corner. We are also excited about Deante Lawrence of Prattville, Ala., a Southern Miss signee, who will be playing strong safety. Deante will be a headhunter in the middle of the field from his safety position and is expected to be an impact player in the secondary. Demarius Pegues (6', 190), a sophomore from Oxford, will probably start at the other safety. Dominic Carter (6-2, 185) a sophomore from Nanih Waiya, will also battle for free safety. So we've got a lot of competition for the defensive backfield."

Anderson also had praise for Martaze Jackson (6-3, 240), a University of Tennessee signee from Demopolis (Ala.) High School, and returnee Lakenneth Weidman (6-6, 240), a South Leake product, "who will provide a ferocious pass rush for opposing quarterbacks from their defensive end positions."

In analyzing this year's roster, Anderson said most squad members come from schools outside the College's "original" five-county recruiting area, which included Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties.

Now that the state is "wide open" for recruiting

See WARRIORS, page 15E

ECCC PHOTO

Warriors prepare for 2012 season during recent practice sections.

WEEK OF August 19, 2012

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ____ OBA DEMOCRAT ____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ____ T COUNTY TIMES ____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ____ ON COUNTY JOURNAL ____

MERIDIAN STAR ____ ON-LEDGER ____

Warriors

From page 14E

student-athletes, Anderson said he and his staff have put forth an extensive effort to find the best players available for the Warrior football program.

"When the rules changed, everybody's life changed," said Anderson. "Basically it takes a lot of manpower and a lot of gas. Our staff is stretched thin…but the name of the game in college football is to get quality players and that is what we tried to do. We are constantly looking for more and better players just like all the other schools.

"All the JUCO teams are facing the same challenges…and I am anxious to see how the new rule really affects everyone besides the obvious….that you won't see as many local players on any team's roster."

The new recruiting guidelines may have meant more travel time and expense for Coach Anderson and his staff, but their efforts resulted in the largest number of prospects vying to make the 55-man roster.

"We had well over a 100 student-athletes to show interest in our program, which is a good thing, of course," said Anderson.

"But the downside is we have to trim that number to 55 when the season starts. And most of these guys paid their own way to attend summer school while also having the opportunity to make our squad. Having that much interest in our program speaks well of our staff and East Central Community College. But the downside is cutting players, which is the worst part of our job…but the players know the situation when they come to camp. We just hope we have the best players on our roster — guys who will represent the Black and Gold in a manner pleasing to the administration, alumni, fans and other supporters of the College."

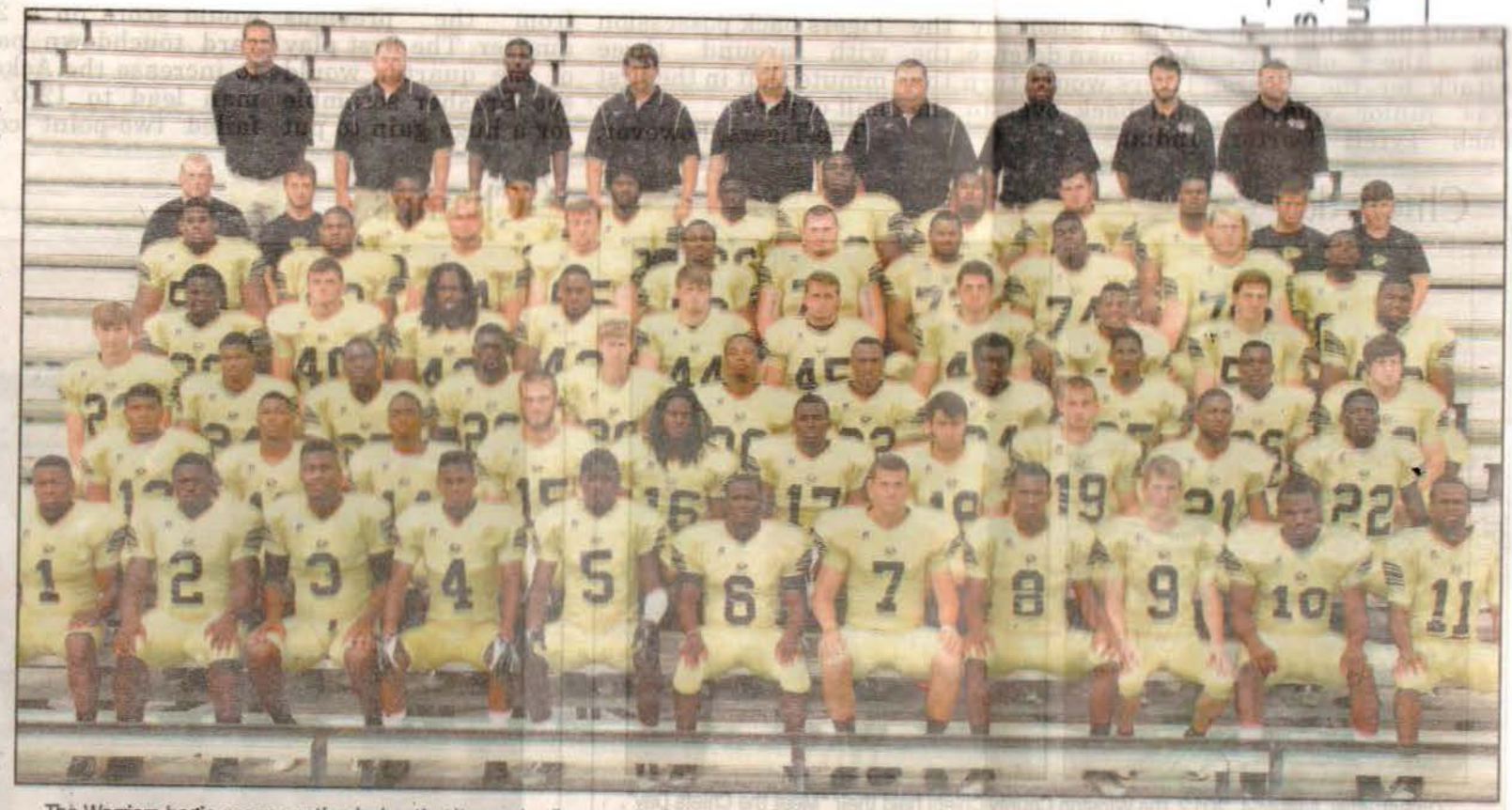
Members of Coach Anderson's staff and their areas of responsibility include Blake Frazier, defensive coordinator; Kyle Watson, offensive line; Derek Pouncey, defensive line; Webb Hamilton, defensive backs; and Donavan Tate, wide receivers. Anderson also serves as offensive coordinator and coaches quarterbacks and running backs.

The Warriors will be seeking a second straight win against Itawamba in the season opener, which gets under way at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, August 30 on Warrior Field at Bailey Stadium. ECCC rallied for a 24-17 victory over the Indians in 2011.

All Warrior football games can be heard on The Groove (98.3 FM), featuring veteran broadcasters and ECCC alumni Melvin Wooten and Gilbert Barham.

ST 19-2012

ECCC invites public to 'Meet the Warriors'



The Warriors begin season action by hosting Itawamba Community College at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, August 30, on the Decatur campus

East Central Community College will recognize members of several sports teams when the "Meet the Warriors" Pep Rally is held Monday, August 27 on the Decatur campus.

The annual event begins at 6:30 p.m. and is scheduled on the East Mall near Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. The public is invited to attend and show support for the College's athletic teams.

Activities begin with a welcome from new ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart followed by performances from the Wall O' Sound Marching Band and cheerleading squad.

Also featured are introductions of football, soccer, fast-pitch softball, golf and tennis team members. Members of the cheerleading squad and Centralettes, the dance line for the Wall O' Sound Marching Band, will also be recognized.

In addition to Dr. Stewart, program participants include head coaches Brian Anderson (football), Kenneth Thompson (soccer), Kristin Chaney (fast-pitch softball), Chris Clark (golf) and Kyle Watson and Dianne O'Neill (tennis).

New cheerleader coach Pam McKnight will introduce members of her squad and first-year Director of Bands Hunter Corhern will recognize Centralettes, who will also perform along with the Wall O' Sound.

Soccer season gets under way Thursday, August 23 when the Warriors challenge Wallace State at 5 p.m. on the Decatur campus. The Warriors and Lady Warriors will be in action Saturday, August 25 against Pearl River Community College. Game times are 3 and 5 p.m. on the Warrior pitch.

The 2012 football campaign begins Thursday, August 30, when the Warriors host Itawamba Community College from Fulton. Kickoff is set for 6:30 p.m. at Bailey Stadium on the Decatur campus.

For more information on "Meet the Warriors," contact Dr. Randall E. Lee, vice president for student services, 601-635-6375 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 375. The e-mail address is rlee@eccc.edu.

WEEK OF August 26, 2012

Warriors gear up for Itawamba

From school reports

Unless Hurricane Isaac has other ideas, East Central Community College's football squad will launch the 2012 campaign Thursday by hosting Itawamba Community College in a non-division battle set for 6:30 p.m. at Bailey Stadium on the Decatur campus.

According to head coach Brian Anderson, the Warriors are ready for action, "whenever the game is played."

"This team has the makings of the best team since I have been here," said Anderson, who enters his third season as head mentor after serving the first year on an interim basis. "It's the most experienced team we've had…with the best kicker…. a quality quarterback….a seasoned secondary… and defensive front that should provide an effective pass rush. Our offensive line will also be much improved. We feel very confident about this year's team."

Leading the Warrior offense will be freshman quarterback Colton Kane, a 6-4, 215-pound product of Navarre (Fla.) High School and a transfer from Florida Atlantic University.

"Colton is a big guy with a big arm who also has mobility," said Anderson. "He is also a good decision maker and I feel confident that he has what it takes to successfully lead this football team."

Anderson also praised freshman punter/kicker Austin Franklin, a 6' 180-pound product of Petal High School.

"We are very pleased with Austin and consider him the best kicker since I've been here," Anderson stated. "How he handles pressure in a game situation remains to be seen, but we are excited about him and what he brings to the position."

Anderson said the success of this year's team will also be determined by the leadership provided by the sophomore players.

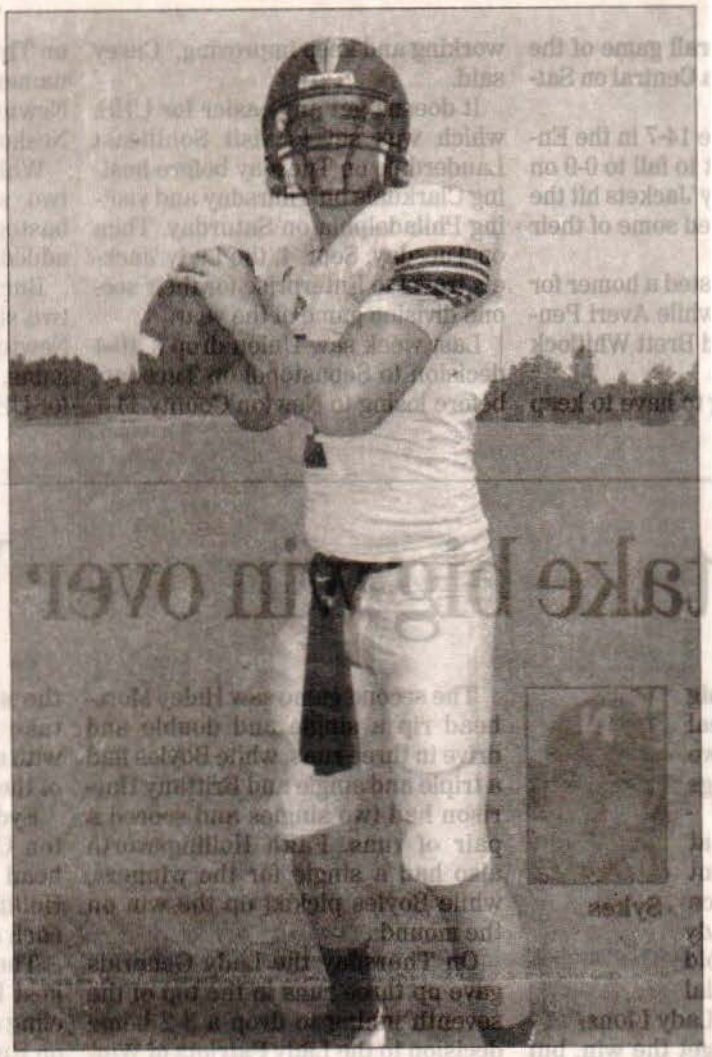
His top offensive returnees include linemen Bart Whigham (6-4, 315) of Northview High School in Dothan, Ala., and Dustin Tubby (6-3, 315) of Neshoba Central; and wide receivers Keivondre Watford (6-4, 220) of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) Central and Brock Hall (6-3, 200) of Paul W. Bryant High School in Tuscaloosa.

Returning defensive standouts include lineman Bradley Dorsey (6-6, 380) of Morton, end Lakenneth Weidman (6-5, 235) of South Leake; and safety Steffon Fuller (6-4, 175) of Kemper County.

In all, the Warriors have seven returnees on offense and five returning players on defense.

East Central will be looking for a second straight victory over Itawamba, as the Warriors rallied for a 24-17 victory in 2011. The Indians went 4-5 overall and finished fourth in MACJC North Division with a 4-2 mark under head coach Jon Williams, a former ECCC assistant.

The Warriors were 2-7 overall and 1-5 in the MACJC South Division in 2011.



Colton Kane

EC photo

Members of Coach Anderson's staff and their respective areas of responsibility include Blake Frazier, defensive coordinator/linebackers; Kyle Watson, offensive line; Derek Pouncey, defensive line; Webb Hamilton, defensive backs; Donovan Tate, wide receivers; and Jarvis Cole, running backs. Anderson also serves as offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach.

The ECCC/Itawamba matchup can be heard on The Groove (98.3 FM) in Carthage, featuring veteran broadcasters Melvin Wooten and Gilbert Barham.

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES

SPIRIT OF MORTON

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

MERIDIAN STAR

CLARION-LEDGER

ECCC slated to host opener if Isaac eases

❑ Warriors set to take on Itawamba CC

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WEEK OF September 2-2012

WARRIORS from page C1

advantage of."

Goodman and the Indians got things started in the first quarter when the quarterback found receiver Rashad Pargo on a 6-yard touchdown pass to put Itawamba up 7-0.

However, the Warriors answered right back, as Ricky Hunt returned the ensuing kickoff all the way back to the 12-yard line to put East Central in scoring position. A few plays later Warrior quarterback Colton Kane squirmed through a pile of defenders and into the end zone to tie the game back at 7-7.

East Central had the opportunity to take the lead, as the Warriors faced a fourth-and-1 deep in Indian territory, but head coach Brian Anderson elected to call a timeout seconds before what would have been a successful field goal went through the uprights. Instead, the head coach opted to go for it on fourth down, but Keshun Shipp was stuffed the next play turning the ball over to Itawamba. While the gamble ultimately did not pay off for the Warriors, Anderson said he did not regret his decision, stating that he will always trust his team in that situation.

"I told the players, 'I'm going to give you the opportunity to win this ballgame,'" Anderson said. "That field goal had nothing to do with us losing this ballgame. You never want to take points off the board, but if I can't trust my players to get a yard, then I'm not a very good football coach."

The Indians would later take advantage, as Goodman found wide receiver Adrian Brown and Pargo again for touchdowns to give Itawamba a comfortable 21-7 lead heading into the half.

After a heavy downpour at halftime, the Indians continued where they left off, as Goodman connected with wide receiver Demarius Howard on a 60-yard touchdown pass early in the third.

"My receivers made awesome plays," Goodman said. "It was pretty spread out, and they did a really good job."

Goodman would find Pargo for one more touchdown, as the Indians (1-0) rolled to victory. Pargo finished the day with four receptions for 120 yards and three touchdowns.

"I was proud of the way our guys responded," Williams said. "They fought, they played hard and I don't think they ever quit."

East Central (0-1) will have little time to rebound off the loss as the Warriors host defending national champion East Mississippi Community College on Thursday night.

"We got a short week, but they have a short week too," Anderson said. "This gives us a opportunity to give film to watch on somebody else, and it gives us a chance to get better on somethings."

Paula Merritt/The Meridian Star

East Central Community College's Ricky Hunt eyes an Itawamna Community College defender as he attempts to return a kickoff for a touchdown.

Paula Merritt/The Meridian Star

East Central Community College's Keshun Shipp tries to get away from the Itawamba Community College defense Saturday at Bailey Stadium in Decatur.

Indians gun down Warriors via the pass

By Tony Tsoukalas
ttsoukalas@themeridianstar.com

DECATUR — Rain and mud did not stop a dominating Itawamba Community College passing attack, as the Indians beat East Central Community College 35-13 on Saturday at Bailey Stadium.

35

13

Itawamba quarterback Andrew Goodman led the way for the Indians, as he threw for 344 yards and five touchdowns while completing 29 of 40 passes. Even through the conditions Itawamba head coach Jon Williams continued to pass the ball, telling his players nothing could stop them from doing what they wanted to do on offense.

"We do it in practice, we don't go indoors when it rains," Williams said. "We stay outside, and we do what we do. We feel we can run the ball well too, but the defense was giving us some things that we took

See WARRIORS on page C4

WEEK OF September 2, 2012

Thursday, September 6, 2012

ww.mer

MEET AGAIN

Longtime rivals play for first time since 2007

Page B1

WARRIORS from page B1

shared a heated rivalry, playing each other every year. However, tonight will be the first time since 2007 that the Warriors and Lions have lined up on the field against one another. Anderson said he expects a spirited crowd and a packed stadium as the two teams renew the rivalry.

"I expect it to be great," Anderson said. "The schools are an hour apart and our crowd is great, their crowd is great. I think it is going to be fun, and I'm glad we are getting to host it."

Any time you host the No.1 team in the country, the stakes are high. However, for Kemper County twins Steffon and Steven Fuller, the game against their former hometown team provides extra motivation.

After spending their first year at EMCC the brothers have now enrolled at East Central and will look to take down their former school.

"We went to almost every game when we were in high school," Steven Fuller said. "When we got there, they gave us our first opportunity to play college ball even though things didn't work out there.

"If we win, it will be real big. Just coming from there and knowing the coaching staff like I do. I don't want to say pay back, but it would be a really big win for us."

Coaches aren't the only ones the two brothers want to impress. Steffon Fuller said he has been trading some good-natured trash talk with his former teammates.

"I've got friends and teammates there," he said. "There is a lot of little trash talk going on. They try to ride it pretty good, and I try to get right back at them."

East Central will look for its seventh straight win over EMCC as the Warriors hold a 35-24-4 edge in the overall series between the two teams.

"It's a once in a lifetime chance to get to play the No.1 team in the nation," Steffon Fuller said. "Everybody's thought right now is to take down the big man."

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____ ESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON COUNTY _____ COTT COUNTY TIMES _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____ INSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____ CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF September 2, 2012

RIVALRY RENEWED

Paula Merritt / The Meridian Star

East Central Community College's Jamere Knox escapes the Itawamba defense Saturday as he picks up a big gain. The Warriors will look to rebound from their 35-13 setback in the season opener against defending national champion East Mississippi today.

Warriors aim to forget opener when reigning champs visit

By Tony Tsoukalas
ttsoukalas@themeridianstar.com

Last week's 35-13 loss to Itawamba was not how East Central Community College coach Brian Anderson drew it up when starting the season. However, the good news for Warrior fans is Anderson and his team have a short memory.

No. 1 EMCC at ECCC
Today
6:30 p.m.
Bailey Stadium

East Central had no time to wallow after its season-opening loss, as the Warriors had to prepare for tonight's 6:30 matchup at Bailey Stadium against defending junior college national champion East Mississippi Community College.

"You can't get too high and you can't get too low," Anderson said. "You just have to focus one week at a time. Sometimes that is tough, but you have to focus on one team at a time. The most important thing is, after Week 1 you get a chance to asses yourself and see what you need to work on."

Defeating an EMCC team fresh off of its 35-15 win against Pearl River Community College will be no small task, as the Lions bring the No. 1 rated team in the country into town.

"I'm impressed with what they have been able to do in four years," Anderson said. "I think it is an awesome thing that they have done. This year, they have as much speed and athleticism [illegible]

WEEK OF September 2, 2012

ROLLING ALONG

Paula Merritt/The Meridian Star

East Mississippi Community College's Quez Johnson looks for a way out of trouble against East Central Community College defenders Thursday night in Decatur.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

Top-ranked Lions turn Warrior miscues into romp

By Tony Tsoukalas
The Meridian Star

DECATUR — East Mississippi Community College showed why it is the No.1 team in the country Thursday night, as the Lions took down East Central Community College 51-7 at Bailey Stadium. The Lions suffocated the Warriors on defense, forcing the Warriors to turnover the ball four times.

51

7

"I thought our defense played great again," EMCC head coach Buddy Stephens said. "We had a bit of a lull at first, but that is my fault."

Things looked promising for East Central early on, as defensive back Desmond Brown intercepted a ball in the end zone to stop a Lion scoring drive. However, a fumble two plays later gave the ball back to EMCC at the Warrior 21-yard line.

Quarterback Quez Johnson got the scoring started for the Lions as the 6-foot-1, 225-pound quarterback muscled his way in on a quarterback sneak from one yard out to make the score 7-0 for EMCC.

Later in the quarter Johnson would find wide receiver Corey Smith for 24 yards and a score, as the speedy receiver juked and dashed his way past Warrior defenders to make the score 14-0.

Paula Merritt/The Meridian Star

East Central Community College's Keshun Shipp coughs up the football and turns it over to East Mississippi Community College on Thursday night in Decatur.

"I kind of felt that I was going to score," Smith said. "I just stepped out and Quez (Johnson) threw a great ball. After that I just turned it on and scored."

Smith hauled in five catches for 84 yards and two touchdowns, as the Lions accounted for 339 yards in the air on the night.

"That's what we do," Stephens said. "We had an excellent opportunity to continue to do that as far as throwing the ball. We had an opportunity to throw the ball all night."

Turnovers would continue to haunt the Warriors after a missed Lion field goal attempt gave ECCC an opportunity get some momentum. However, the Warriors would fumble on the next play on offense to set up an eventual Lion touchdown. EMCC would head into the half up 24-0.

"We should have been 7-7 heading into the half," ECCC head coach Brian Anderson said. "Our players acted like they haven't ever practiced before. Simple things like snap exchanges and handoffs we just didn't do."

See Lions on page B3

WEEK OF September 2, 2012

LIONS from page B1

In the second half it was much of the same story, as Johnson found Smith again this time on a 16-yard touchdown to put the Lions up 31-0 with. Later in the third quarter running back Rodriguez Moore burst through a tired Warrior defensive line to make the score 38-0.

The Warriors would not be shut out, however, as ECCC defensive back Deante Lawrence jumped in front of a pass from EMCC backup quarterback Dontreal Pruitt and returned it all the way back to the seven-yard line. Running back Martin Johnson would finally punch it in on fourth and goal for to give the Warriors touchdown and make the score 38-7.

The Lions would answer back for 13 more points as they eased their second win of the season.

Up next for ECCC (0-2) is a trip to Copiah-Lincoln next Thursday, while EMCC (2-0) will travel to Southwest Mississippi.

"Southwest is a very good team," Stephens said. "They are very capable of beating you if you let them."

Paula Merritt/The Meridian Star

East Central Community College's Jamere Knox looks for room around the end as East Mississippi Community College defenders pursue Thursday night in Decatur.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

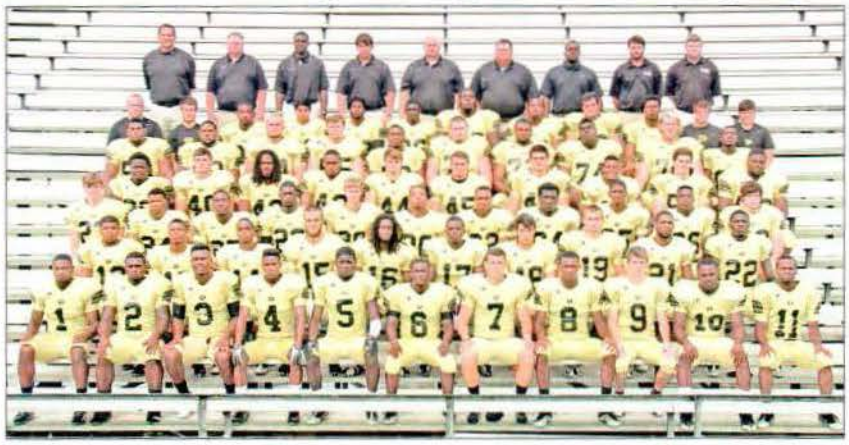
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF September 2, 2012

East Central Warriors ready to begin 2012 campaign



Ready to begin the 2012 campaign are the members of the East Central Community College football team. Team members and their respective high schools include (first row, from left) defensive back Deante Lawrence (1), Prattville (Alabama); running back Keshaun Shipp (2), Olive Branch; wide receiver KelVondre Watford (3), Tuscaloosa Central (Alabama); defensive back Za Reese (4), Morton; wide receiver Steven Fuller (5), Kemper County; running back (6) Johnny Beamon, New Hope; quarterback Colton Kane (7), Navarre (Florida); wide receivers Brock Hall (8), Paul W. Bryant (Alabama), and Kyle Koch (9), Calvary Christian; and defensive backs Demarius Pegues (10), Oxford, and Markel Milsap (11), Laurel; (second row, from left) quarterback Donnie Farmer (12), Harrison Central; defensive backs Ricky Hunt (13), North Panola, and Ben Brooks (14), Northeast Lauderdale; quarterback Zak Thrasher (15), New Hope; wide receiver Jamere Knox (16), Wicomico (Maryland); running back Martin Johnson (17), Nanih Waiya; kicker/punter Austin Franklin (18), Petal; wide receivers Blake Roberts (19), Petal, and Georgio Grace (21), Philadelphia; and defensive back Steffon Fuller (22), Kemper County; (third row, from left) wide receiver Freeman Gray (23), Tunica Academy; defensive back Dominique Carter (24), Nanih Waiya; quarterback Tyler Hatch (25), Southaven; wide receiver Cashmere Dawson (26), Leake Central; kicker Colton Ballard (28), Newton County; linebacker Zachary Thigpen (30), Laurel; wide receiver Toriante Hinton (32), Provine; linebacker Jeff Johnson (34), Southaven; defensive backs Chris Apperwhite (35), Laurel, and Robert Ducksworth (36), Oak Grove; and wide receiver Dillon Williams (38), Newton County Academy; (fourth row, from left) linebackers Trey Wynn (39), Hillcrest (Alabama), and Cory Houck (40), Union County (Florida); defensive linemen Cordell Paige (42), Gautier, and Martaze Jackson (43), Demopolis (Alabama); linebackers Blake Graves (44), Presbyterian Christian, Seth McDonald (45), West Jones, and Layton Holcomb (47), Oak Grove; defensive back Daniel Gregory (48), New Hope; linebacker Daniel Myrick (51), Northwest Rankin; and offensive lineman Paul Kirkman (53), Tuscaloosa County; (fifth row, from left) offensive linemen Kyron Samuels (54), Fairhope (Alabama), and Remund Jackson (62), Tuscaloosa County (Alabama); defensive lineman Hunter Green (64), Mendenhall; offensive linemen Johnny Kight (65), Nanih Waiya, Justin Verner (70), Columbus, Dustin Tubby (71), Neshoba Central, Bart Whigham (72), Northview (Alabama), Shaquille Patrick (74), Scott Central, and Park Stevens (75), New Hope; and wide receiver Wesley Smith (80), Morton; (sixth row, from left) managers Zach Yates, Newton County, and Joseph Moreland, Kossuth; defensive lineman Maher Bradford (81), Scott Central; wide receiver Jaime Gomez (82), Harrison Central; defensive lineman LaKenneth Weidman (83), South Leake; wide receiver James Clark (86), Laurel; defensive linemen Bradley Dorsey (90), Morton, Kalvin Smith (95), Newton County, Joseph Reeves (96), New Hope, and Vodrick Lucious (98), Tuscaloosa County (Alabama); and managers Tyler Warnat, New Hope, and Tyler Graham, Philadelphia; and (back row, from left) head coach Brian Anderson, assistants Derek Pouncey, Donovan Tate, Webb Hamilton, Kyle Watson, Blake Frazier and Jarvis Cole; and athletic trainers Derrick Jones and Paul McMahan, both of the Rush Sports Medicine Team. The Warriors begin season action by hosting Itawamba Community College at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, August 30, on the Decatur campus. *(EC Photo)*

Former Warrior standout named ECCC assistant

Submitted

Devarus "Scooter" Walker, a former East Central Community College basketball standout, has returned to his alma mater as an assistant to his former coach, Maurice Bowie.

Walker was a member of the 2007-08 and 2008-09 Warrior squads. He was also a two-year member of the tennis team.

He is a 2007 graduate of Newton County High School, where he was a member of state championship teams in tennis and was also a standout in basketball. He received honors in both sports.

Devarus "Scooter" Walker

Walker earned an associate's degree at ECCC in 2009 and received a bachelor's degree in physical education at William Carey University in Hattiesburg in 2012, where he also played basketball and tennis.

His coaching experience includes serving as an intern at the YMCA in Hattiesburg, were he operated summer sports camps for children age five to 13. He was also responsible for planning and organizing sports-related activities.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

Meridian IMPACT ✓ x2

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

Top ranked EMCC Lions cruise past ECCC Warriors

Top ranked East Mississippi Community College may be on its way to a second-straight NJCAA football championship.

The Lions rolled into Decatur Thursday night and came away with an easier-than-expected 51-7 victory over East Central Community College and snapped a six-game skid to the Warriors in the process.

With the win, East Mississippi improved to 2-0 on the young season while EC dropped to 0-2.

Brian Anderson, now in his fourth year leading the Warrior program, was disappointed in his team's effort and especially turnovers that continue to plague the EC offense.

A Warrior fumble – one of seven for the night - following a missed East MS field goal in second half action provided the visitors with an excellent scoring opportunity at the 24-yard line and led to a 21-0 advantage for the Lions.

"We should have been 7-7 heading into the half," Anderson said in a post-game interview. "Simple things like snap exchanges and handoffs we just didn't do."

EC's defense provided an early turnover itself when defensive back Desmond Brown of Cherokee (Ala.) County High School intercepted quarterback Quez Johnson's pass in the end zone on the game's first possession.

However, a Warrior fumble three plays later on the EC 21 set up the Lions' first score – a two-yard run by Johnson with 11:00 left in the first stanza. Johnson is a product of Starkville High School. Morgan Rhodes of Northwest Rankin connected on the first of his six PATs.

After the Warriors were unable to move the pigskin on the ensuing possession, East Mississippi took over on its 30 following Petal product Austin Franklin's 41-yard punt to the EMCC 30. Six plays later the Lions stretched their lead to 14-0 after wide receiver Corey Smith of Akron, Ohio, hauled in a 25-yard TD pass from Johnson with 6:52 remaining in the first quarter.

After an exchange of possession, EC drove from its 33-yard line to the EMCC 38, but a holding call followed by a turnover nixed the drive and the visitors took over near midfield. The drive stalled at the Warrior nine-yard line, from where Rhodes missed a 26-yard field goal with 6:30 left before halftime.

EC took over on its 20-yard line but fumbled on the first play and provided the Lions with an excellent scoring opportunity.

It took eight plays from that point for EMCC to find the end zone but did so when running back Rodriquez Moore of Bastrop, La., tallied on a one-yard plunge, extending the Lions' lead to 21-0.

On the ensuing possession, the Warriors were once again a victim of the turnover as quarterback Colton Kane's pass attempt was deflected and intercepted by EMCC defensive lineman Za'Darius Smith of Greenville on the EC 15-yard line.

The Lions took advantage of the scoring opportunity as Rhodes drilled a 35-yard field goal with just under a minute left before halftime. The half ended with the visitors in control at 24-0.

East Mississippi added two scores in the third quarter – Johnson's 16-yard scoring strike to Smith with 7:01 left, followed by Moore's 41-yard TD jaunt with 5:54 remaining.

EC got on the scoreboard earlier in fourth quarter action on running back Martin Johnson's one-yard run, set up by Dontreal Pruitt's 43-yard interception and return to the EM seven-yard line. Franklin added the PAT.

The Lions scored twice in the game's final 10 minutes – the first coming on Pruitt's 23-yard TD toss to wide receiver Deontae Jones of New Hope with 9:41 remaining, followed by running back Xavier Hogan's five-yard burst with just 34 seconds left in the non-division matchup.

EMCC held a 23-11 edge in first downs.

EC quarterback Colton Kane completed 11 of 33 passes for 72 yards and had one interception. Kane was the top rusher with eight attempts for 42 yards. Kane is a product of Navarre (Fla.) High School.

The Warriors managed 131 rushing yards. Other top rushers were Keshun Shipp of Olive Branch, 15 carries for 40 yards; Jamere Knox of Salisbury, Md., five attempts for 31 yards; and Johnson, 10 carries for 25 yards and a touchdown.

Franklin punted six times for a 34-yard average.

EC lost three of seven fumbles.

EMCC had 339 passing yards and 221 yards rushing for a 660-yard total.

Johnson completed 22 of 38 passes for 339 yards and three scores. He also threw two interceptions. Pruitt connected on eight of 12 passes for 79 yards and one score and was intercepted once.

Defensively, EC was led by linebacker Blake Graves of Presbyterian Christian, who was credited with nine tackles. Other top tacklers were defensive lineman Kalvin Smith of Newton County, four tackles and two quarterback sacks; defensive man Martaze Jackson Demopolis (Ala.), four tac and quarterback sack; and backer Cory Houck of U County (Fla.), four tackles.

The Warriors begin MA South Division competition taking on Copiah-Lin Community College Thurs Sept. 13. Kickoff is set for 7 on the Wesson campus.

The Wolves are 1-1 on young season following their 21 loss to Northwest Mississ Community College Thurs night in Wesson. Co-Lin defe Northeast Mississ Community College 33-14 i season opener.

The ECCC/Co-Lin game be heard live on The Gr (98.3 FM) featuring vet broadcasters Melvin Wooter Gilbert Barham.

APPEARED
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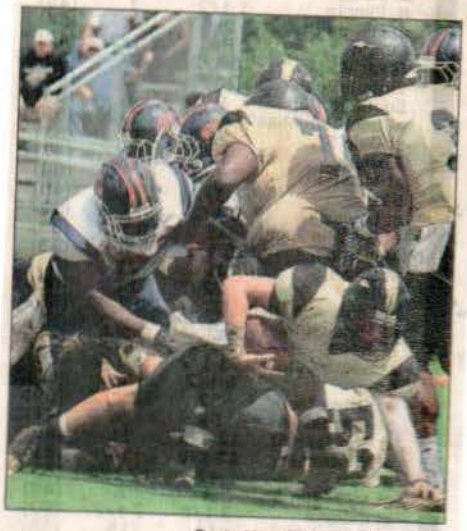
WEEK OF September 9, 2012

Raising 'Kane'



Paula Merritt/The Meridian Star

East Central Community College quarterback Colton Kane lunges for the end zone against Itawamba in the Warriors' season opener Sept. 1.

Warriors turn to first-year QB for first win of 2012

By Tony Tsoukalas
ttsoukalas@themeridianstar.com

After losing big against powerhouse teams Itawamba and East Mississippi Community College in Weeks 1 and 2 of the season, East Central Community College looks to earn its first win of the season, as it travels to Copiah-Lincoln tonight at 7.

While the losses were tough for East Central head coach Brian Anderson and his team to swallow, the Warriors will look to move on, as tonight's game marks the start of divisional play.

East Central at Co-Lin
7 p.m.
H. L. Stone Stadium

WARRIORS from page B1

it's much faster. It's just obvious that anybody can see if you watch practice this week."

The Florida Atlantic University transfer, Kane has struggled at times during the games against Itawamba and EMCC. However, heading into Week 3, the quarterback said he is beginning to feel more comfortable in his first year as a starter at the junior college level.

"Oh yeah, I feel like the first two games, you play two really good teams and you get exposed to the areas you need to work on," Kane said. "You just go back to the board and work on it. That told me a lot, and those are two of the best defenses I am going to play all year.

"It showed me a lot. It showed me I am going to have to work that much harder and really put in the extra time."

Kane attributes much of his success on the field to his relationship with Anderson. Kane said he shares the same inner drive to get better Anderson does, and the two feed off one another during practice.

"We both keep each other going," Kane said. "I expect him to be on me ever practice, all practice, to try to make me the best that I can be. He definitely does that and it helps me out a lot."

The 6-foot-3, 190-pound quarterback has not only built trust with his head coach, but other members of the Warrior offense are starting to look to him as a leader as well. Over the past two games, Kane believes his offense has seen his true character and respects him.

"You got to build that trust," Kane said. "Guys are going to see how you are, if you can take a hit. After these first couple games they have seen that. Even if I get knocked down, I am going to get back up and start fighting."

With the season moving into divisional play, East Central knows the extra importance of every game. Tonight, Kane and Warriors are confident and ready to pick up their first win of the season.

"We have been doing a lot of film study this week, and there is a lot of holes in (Copiah-Lincoln's) defense that we can expose," Kane said. "We put in some plays that we have been working really hard on. We are definitely ready for it, that's for sure."

"We played two tremendous football teams," Anderson said. "They were perhaps the two best teams in the North Division. That gives you a true gauge of where you are at, but it also doesn't mean anything as far as our South Division standings. It is a new beginning."

Part of building success at the junior college level is the ability for a team to gel together quickly. Anderson said his team is not quite there yet, but he hopes the Warriors will improve as they prepare for divisional play.

"From what I have seen, it takes three or four games before you can really do that," Anderson said. "In the last four years we have had a freshman quarterback, you just have growing pains.

"I tell you, I have seen a tremendous change in Colton Kane this week. He's getting the ball out noticeably quicker. His mental approach, the way he's going through his progressions,

See WARRIORS on page B3

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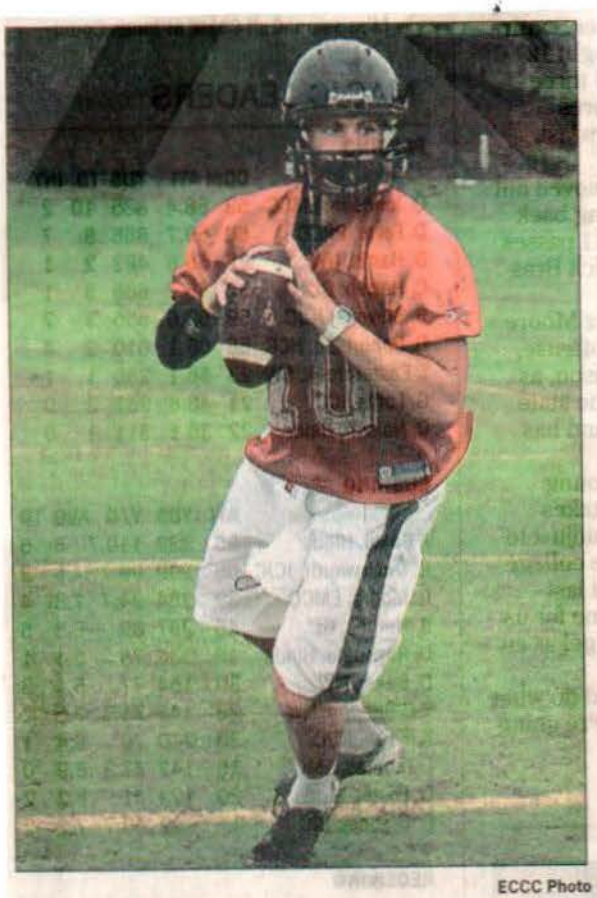
WEEK OF September 16, 2012



ECCC Photo

ECCC quarterback Colton Kane drops back during practice. ECCC will be without the injured Kane tonight.

East Central looks to battle injuries against Southwest Mississippi

By Tony Tsoukalas
ttsoukalas@themeridianstar.com

As if a disappointing 0-3 start is not enough to handle, East Central Community College will be battling injuries to several of its key players, as the Warriors head into a week-four match up against Southwest Mississippi.

Southwest at ECCC
7 p.m.
Bailey Stadium

East Central will be without defensive linemen Cordell Paige, Kyron Samuels and Bradley Dorsey, as well as quarterback Colton Kane, as they take on the Bears tonight in Decatur.

Kane, who is battling a MRSA staff infection in his foot, is one player the Warriors will sorely miss. Head coach Brian Anderson said the freshman had started to show signs he was coming into his own this season. Now East Central will turn to two backups in Zak Thrasher and Brock Hall to keep things running on offense.

WARRIORS from page B1

due to injuries, it will put extra emphasis on the current starters to perform on defense.

"It would help out our defensive backs a lot if we could get back there fast," Defensive lineman Kalvin Smith said. "The faster we can get back there, the less they have to cover. We want to help eliminate some of those big plays."

Though the Warriors are off to a slow start, Anderson has reminded his players to not give up, stressing that they are part of the building process at East Central.

"We are trying to build something at East Central," Anderson said. "If you look at the record books here, it's tough to do, but that's what we are trying to accomplish.

"We are trying to start something, and anytime you try to start something, it's tough. You have to have a tough mind set and and tough players, and our players are tough."

Players have taken Anderson's mission to heart and are set to improve the future for East Central. Several veterans have stepped up this season, encouraging the freshman and making sure the team remains positive while facing adversity.

"I tell them to not get down and keep their head up," Smith said. "The tougher something is to get, the more you have to fight for it. If you want it bad enough, you have to take it."

Smith said the team is hungry for its first win on Thursday. The Warriors, who beat Southwest 41-28 in the last game of the season last year, will look to come out on top again tonight and get that much-awaited first taste of victory.

"Like coach always said, losing never tastes good," Smith said. "When you win, everything starts tasting better. The food taste better, it makes everything seem better."

"We got two guys Zak Thrasher and Brock Hall who give us different things," Anderson said. "Right now it will be a game-time decision to see who plays and how much. I expect both of them to play.

"They are doing the same thing as Colton. They are fighting through and they are tying to learn and take the offense forward."

On defense, the Warriors will look to combat a Southwest offensive scheme that will look to attack the East Central secondary on quick passes and screens.

"Offensively they operate behind a controlled short-passing game," Anderson said. "They have two quarterbacks that both do a great job of getting rid of the football quickly. They have a really good running game. They have a good football team, they have just played two really good football teams."

If East Central plans to stop the Bears, it will need a solid effort, not only from its secondary, but also from the defensive line to add pressure and disrupt the quarterback. With so many lineman out

CLARION-LEDGER

WEEK OF September 6th, 2012

Koch gains yardage for ECCC

East Central Community College wide receiver Kyle Koch (9) of Meridian looks for daylight after hauling in a pass from quarterback Colton Kane during the Warriors' MACJC South Division opener with Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Wesson. (ECCC Photo)

ECCC Warriors fall in division opener

Turnovers and penalties proved costly for the East Central Community College Warriors who began MACJC South Division action with a 47-10 drubbing by Copiah-Lincoln Community College Thursday night at Stone Stadium on the Wesson campus.

East Central remains winless in three starts following the setback while the Wolves improved to 2-1 overall and 1-0 in league play.

interceptions, the Warriors were penalized 13 times for 96 yards, while the host Wolves had two infractions for 15 yards.

Co-Lin jumped out to a 13-0 first-quarter lead following a 16-yard interception return by defensive back Greg Sims of Brookhaven with 5:29 left followed by a one-yard plunge by running back Darius Guy of Rosa Fort with 1:49 remaining. Guy set up his score with a 36-

by Rogers' nine-yard TD toss to receiver DeVante Scott with 6:20 remaining in the third stanza. Long's PAT stretched the Wolves' lead to 27-10.

Co-Lin took advantage of Kane's third interception early in the fourth stanza, which gave the Wolves possession on the EC 23-yard line.

The home team scored seven plays later on another TD strike from Rogers to Scott, this time from two yards out. Long

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The Warrior offense struggled throughout most of the division battle and was often stymied due to penalties.

The lone touchdown came in the third stanza when freshman quarterback Colton Kane connected with speedy receiver Ricky Hunt on an 89-yard pass play that cut the Wolves' lead to 20-10.

However, EC could get no closer as Co-Lin responded with four scores to seal the victory.

Kane finished the night by completing 15 of 22 passes for 195 yards. He was also victim to five interceptions – the final pick coming on the last play of the game with the Warriors on the Co-Lin 24-yard line.

Hunt, who had another reception for minus one yard, was the leading EC receiver.

EC's rushing attack was led by sophomore Keshun Shipp who compiled 88 yards on 16 carries.

Freshman punter/kicker Austin Franklin of Petal was responsible for EC's other points. He connected on a 25-yard field goal that narrowed the Co-Lin advantage to 20-3 with 7:09 left before halftime. The scoring drive was highlighted by Shipp's 45-yard scamper.

Franklin also kicked the PAT following the Warriors' third quarter tally. Franklin punted six times for a 38-yard average. His longest effort was 44 yards.

In addition to the five yard scamper to the EC one-yard line. Nolan Young of Ackerman made the first PAT but a mishandled snap from center nixed the second PAT attempt.

The Wolves stretched their lead to 20-0 early in second period action on Guy's second tally – a five-yard burst set up by quarterback Chandler Rogers' 42-yard strike to sophomore wide receiver Darren Anderson to the EC five.

After Franklin's field goal made the score 20-3, the Warrior defense stiffened and a fumble recovery by defensive lineman Lakenneth Weidman of South Leake with 5:34 left before halftime provided EC with excellent field position near midfield.

However, the drive stalled when Kane's pass was again picked off by Sims on the Wolves' 19-yard line.

EC's defense held the Wolves on the first possession of the second half and the Warrior offense responded with Kane's short pass to Hunt which resulted in the 89-yard scoring play.

The Wolves followed EC's tally with a nine-play, 70-yard drive capped connected on the PAT to extend the lead to 34-10. Rogers finished the night by completing 20 of 32 passes for 222 yards and two scores.

On EC's next possession, Kane's pass was deflected and picked off and returned by Co-Lin defender Milton Griffin to the Warrior 36-yard line.

The Wolves scored six plays later on freshman running back Van Lee's 10-yard scamper with 6:50 left in the game. Long kicked the PAT to stretch the Co-Lin advantage to 41-0. The short scoring drive was aided by a personal foul penalty against the Warrior defense.

The Wolves put the final points on the scoreboard on freshman Casey Gladney's 41-yard punt return. Gladney is from Glen Forest (S.C.) High School. The PAT was blocked.

Next up for the ECCC Warriors is a division battle with Southwest Mississippi Community College scheduled Thursday, Sept. 20. Kickoff is set for 6:30 p.m. at Bailey Stadium on the Decatur campus.

The Bears are 0-2 on the young season.

WEEK OF September 16, 2012

EC stumbles in division opener

From school reports

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Freshman punter/kicker

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EC photo

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF September 23, 2012

Hall playing two positions for ECCC

Sat. September 29, 2012 at 1:00 a.m. | By Barry Allen

Brock Hall played quarterback at Paul W. Bryant High School and was moved to receiver at East Central Community College. He's seen action at both positions this season.

DECATUR, Miss. | Brock Hall wants the football in his hands. So, it makes no difference to the former Paul W. Bryant High School standout whether it is throwing the football or catching it.

"I just like to have the ball in my hands," Hall said. "Quarterback comes more naturally to me. I have played the position for four years and I don't have to think about a lot of things. It just comes natural to me. I feel like I can make plays at quarterback most of the time."

When he arrived at East Central Community College in Decatur, Miss., last fall, Hall was moved from quarterback to wide receiver. ECCC coach Brian Anderson said the move was made to enhance Hall's chances of playing Division I football.

"We converted Brock from a quarterback to wide receiver," Anderson said. "We thought it would be a no-brainer he could be a Division I wide receiver. He is long and a very athletic player. He has good quickness, good top-end speed and good hands. He is very explosive."

Hall has had to get used to catching the ball rather than throwing it.

"It was difficult at first," he said. "When I first got here they moved me and it was a really hard thing for me to move from quarterback to wide receiver. I had played quarterback four years in high school and then all of a sudden make that move. I knew I had to make it work and play my role to help the team. Actually, it has turned out pretty good for me."

Hall had 11 catches for 204 yards and four touchdowns as freshman in 2011. He completed 4 of 6 passes for 80 yards as the backup quarterback. This year, Hall has five catches for 43 yards. He also has three rushing attempts for 21 yards as the backup signal-caller.

Injuries at the quarterback position the last two seasons allowed Hall to play both receiver and quarterback for the Warriors. He made his 2012 debut at quarterback in the Warriors' first win, against Southwest Mississippi Community College last Thursday when ECCC starter Colton Kane was sidelined with an injury.

"He has great speed back there," Anderson said. "He has a tremendous arm. He can really throw the football. Last week, he probably had 20-25 snaps, this week he will have more. His role at quarterback, I anticipate growing each week for the remainder of the season."

That's just fine with Hall.

"Quarterback just comes more natural to me," Hall said. "I think it has helped me a lot. When I got here, Coach told me they wanted to move me to receiver and that he thought that was my best position if I was going to play Division I football. I think it has really helped me out."

The dual-threat potential has made Hall a hot commodity on the recruiting trail. According to Anderson, he is getting serious offers from most every Conference-USA school. Anderson said he thinks Hall will fit in well in a spread offense.

Hall said the recruiting process has been exciting and that he is close to achieving his goal of playing Division I football.

"It has been exciting," he said. "It has always been a goal of mine to play Division I football and get on the big stage."

Hall said he plans to visit Marshall in the near future and also has offers from Southern Mississippi, Memphis, Troy and South Alabama.

"If you can play the quarterback position you can pretty much play anywhere on the field," Anderson said. "Coaches got the opportunity to see him play last year and make some big plays in the passing game. He has made a few here so far. He you can direct an offense and know what the receivers are doing and know what the linemen are doing. Get the plays from sideline and you can direct an offense, I think that helps your stock."

Hall doesn't care where he plays, as long as the ball is in his hands.

APPEARED IN:

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NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

Tuscreps.com ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

Shipp sails in EC's first win

From school reports

Keshun Shipp rushed for 141 yards on 25 carries and scored two touchdowns in leading East Central Community College to a 16-10 victory over Southwest Mississippi Community College Thursday night at Bailey Stadium on the Decatur campus.

Shipp, a 5-9, 215-pound running back from Olive Branch, scored on a one-yard plunge with 20 seconds left before halftime and found the end zone on a 28-yard scamper early in third period action in leading the Warriors to their first win of the 2012 campaign.

East Central head coach Brian Anderson was obviously elated about his team's accomplishment.

"I am so proud of our kids," said Anderson, whose Warriors improved to 1-3 overall and 1-1 in the MACJC South Division. "To see them pull out a game like this was very satisfying. They just wouldn't be denied. It was really a great effort by everybody."

Anderson was especially proud of the defense, which allowed just 78 rushing yards and made several key plays in keeping the Bears from scoring, including several goal line stands and two blocked field goals.

The Warriors were without the services of starting quarterback Colton Kane of Pensacola, Fla. who is recovering from a foot injury.

Back-up quarterback Zak Thrasher and wide receiver Brock Hall, a former high school signal caller, shared quarterbacking duties and both made several key plays in the division victory.

Thrasher, a 6-3, 200-pound product of New Hope High School, completed nine of 18 passes for 69 yards and had one interception. He also had 10 rushes for 46 yards.

Hall, a 6-2, 185-pound product of Paul W. Bryant High School in Tuscaloosa, Ala., completed three of seven passes for 29 yards. He also had two rushes for 37 yards and caught two passes from Thrasher for 37 yards.

"These guys did a great job managing the game," said Anderson. "I was really proud of their effort."

Southwest, which dropped to 0-3 and 0-1, took an early 3-0 lead on Paul Johnson's 25-yard field goal with 5:23 left in the first period. Johnson is a product of Bay High School in Waveland.

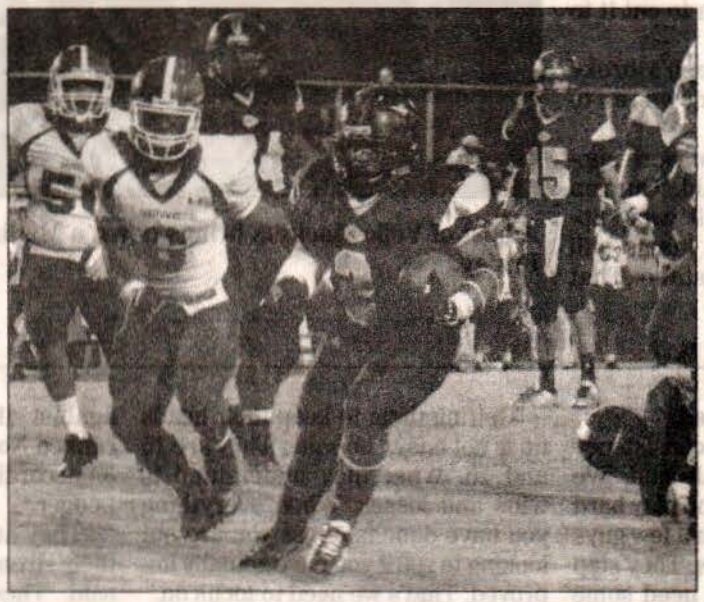
EC had an opportunity to tie the contest but Austin Franklin's 42-yard field goal attempt with 2:09 left in the initial period was wide left.

The Southwest advantage stood up until late in second quarter action when Shipp capped an 11-play, 69-yard march with his first tally. Franklin made the first of his two PATs.

EC began possession after defensive back Deante Lawrence tackled Southwest quarterback Schyler Walker during a fake field goal attempt with 3:15 left before halftime.

Key plays during the EC scoring drive included Shipp's 13-yard scamper to the Southwest 22 and Thrasher's nine-yard strike to Hall on a third and four situation that gave EC possession on the five-yard line.

EC extended its lead to 14-3 early in the third stanza on Shipp's second tally, set up by defensive back Chris Apperwhite's interception and return of a Walker pass, which gave the Warriors possession on the Bears' 29-yard line.



Keshun Shipp (2) was the workhorse for East Central Community College's offense Thursday night, as the sophomore running back from Olive Branch rambled for 141 yards on 25 carries and scored twice.

EC photo

The visitors closed the scoring gap to 14-10 on the ensuing possession with Walker and wide receiver Chris Cooley of Dexter High School combining talents on an eight-yard scoring strike, capping an 11-play, 74-yard drive.

EC had an opportunity to extend its lead early in fourth quarter action but Franklin's 22-yard field goal attempt was wide left.

The Warriors missed out on another scoring opportunity with 7:35 left in the game when Franklin's 38-yard field goal attempt was blocked.

Another EC drive stalled at the Southwest eight-yard line when Thrasher's pass was intercepted by the Bears' Steven Joiner of Raymond.

However, it was the Warriors who took advantage of the mishap as linebacker Layton Holcomb sacked Walker in the end zone for a safety to complete scoring with 3:47 left in the contest.

EC held a 19-17 edge in first downs.

The Warriors had 260 yards rushing and 98 yards passing for a 358-yard total.

Keivondre Watford was the top receiver with five grabs for 41 yards. Watford is a product of Tuscaloosa Central High School.

In addition to the 78 yards rushing as previously mentioned, Southwest had 240 yards passing, as Walker completed 24 of 48 attempts.

Linebacker Blake Graves of Presbyterian Christian led the EC defense with eight tackles, followed by linebacker Cory Houck of Union County (Fla.) High School with seven stops.

Next up for the Warriors' is a homecoming battle with Hinds Community College scheduled Saturday, Sept. 29. Kickoff is set for 2:30 p.m. at Bailey Stadium.

WEEK OF September 23 2012

APPEARED IN:
CARTHAGINIAN ___
NEWTON COUNTY ___
SPIRIT OF MORTON ___
MERIDIAN STAR ___

East Central looks to build on win

By Tony Tsoukalas
ttsoukalas@themeridianstar.com

East Central Community College head coach Brian Anderson has preached to his team, the first win is always hard to get.

Last week the Warriors earned their first win, as East Central beat the Southwest Community College 16-10.

The Warriors will face a new challenge today, as they try to continue their success against Hinds Community College at 2:30 for East Central's homecoming.

Hinds at ECCC
2:30 p.m.
Bailey Stadium

"We enjoyed our win for a couple days, but you have to get back to work," Anderson said. "You can't get too high or too low, but the win really did improve our morale."

Anderson knows his team will have its hands full, as they prepare for one of the most talented teams they have seen so far.

Although Hinds is just 2-2 on the season, Anderson said they are a better team than their record indicates.

"Hinds is just a really quality football team loaded with talent," Anderson said. "Defensively they have a good team, and it starts up front for them. Across the front they are 285, 300, 320, and they have a guy that is about 265. They can all flat out run. They are the most attack-oriented defense we will play."

Last week, the Warriors received a stellar performance from sophomore running back Keshun Shipp. The 5-foot-9, 215-pound running back from Olive Branch rushed his way to 141 yards on 25 carries against Southwest. This week the Warriors will need another big day from Shipp if they are going to move the ball against a talented Hinds defense.

"I have to just step up," Shipp said. "I mean, it's hard going without Colton Kane, because he was such a big help for the offense. I just have to make more plays and try to get the offense to do what we can do."

East Central will look to capitalize on the extra rest, as the Warriors had an extra two days off to prepare due to homecoming. Anderson said the extra rest is much needed, as he is still trying to replace the loss of Colton Kane at quarterback.

"We were glad to have a long week to prepare this week," Anderson said. "Honestly, our offense is in week two and everybody else's defense is in week eight. We are trying to discover ourselves and find things we can do to move the football."

Despite the turnover, the team has rallied behind backups Zak Thrasher and Brock Hall. Anderson said he will use both Thrasher and Hall depending on certain situations in the game.

"I'm comfortable with either Zak (Thrasher) or Brock (Hall) coming into the game," Shipp said. "I think after this last game we came together as a team and our confidence is rising. I feel like everything is going to go accordingly."

The East Central players know what they are up against when it comes to playing a quality team such as Hinds. However, Shipp said he and his teammates believe in each other and are not scared of anyone.

"I've played lines like this before," Shipp said. "It is nothing that we can't handle, we just have to go out and play hard. It is a bigger challenge, and it might be tough, but I think it will work out for us."

WEEK OF September 30, 2012

Dream-Catchers

Paula Merritt / The Meridian Star

AP East Central Community College's Freeman Gray hauls in a reception near the sideline against Hinds Community College's Kenya Dennis Saturday in Decatur.

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF September 30, 2012

ECCC from page C1

With 13:26 left in the game, freshman running back Martin Johnson took a hand off and broke to the edge, getting behind the Hinds defense and busting up the sidelines for a 66-yard touchdown run to put the Warriors on top 26-21.

"I was thinking we needed to score again," Anderson said. "You can never be to cautious, that is what was going through my mind."

What turned out as a dream for East Central could have easily been a nightmare, as Hinds had the ball at the Warrior 15 yard line with 1:27 left to go. However, a incomplete pass on second down and a three-yard loss on third down set up a fourth and nine for Hinds with the game on the line. After not finding an open receiver, Nelson was sacked in the backfield by a bevy of Warrior defenders to complete the miracle comeback for East Central.

"I never thought about losing the game," Anderson said. "Not ever did it cross my mind. When the sack happened, it was total jubilation, total relief, it was unreal.

After the game, Anderson spoke with his team and congratulated them for never giving up. The head coach has preached all season, anything is possible. Saturday his players proved him to be true.

"If you have a little bit of faith, you can do anything," Anderson told his team. "You can move a mountain, and believe me guys, you just moved a mountain."

Paula Merritt / The Meridian Star

East Central Community College's Brock Hall gets off a pass as Hinds Community College's Jadarius Hicks applies pressure Saturday in Decatur.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

Warriors upset Eagles for homecoming win

By Tony Tsoukalas
ttsoukalas@themeridianstar

For homecoming, East Central displayed a Indian dream-catcher logo on the 50-yard line. Against heavily favored Hinds, the Warriors dreams came true, as East Central took down the Eagles 26-21 Saturday.

26

21

"We just caught a dream," East Central head coach Brian Anderson said. "This team was not supposed to beat those guys, but our players didn't know that, you couldn't tell them that."

Things couldn't have started better for the Warriors. After forcing the Eagles to punt on their opening drive, East Central was pinned at its own six-yard line. The Warriors would then go were they have gone plenty of time this season during a time of need, running back Keshun Shipp.

The talented sophomore drove down the field, carry by carry, taking the ball seven times for 49 yards on the opening drive and bringing the Warriors down to the Hinds four-yard line. Brock Hall would do the rest for the Warriors as he rushed in a touchdown on a quarterback keeper to put East Central up 6-0.

Hinds would strike back, however, as quarterback Christopher Nelson hit receiver Quantavius Leslie in stride for a 57-yard touchdown later in the quarter to put the Eagles up 7-6.

The Eagles would score two more touchdowns before the half, and it appeared they were on the verge of putting away East Central, as they headed into the half with a 21-6 lead.

To make matters worse, Ship injured foot breaking a tackle late in the second quarter and returned in the second half on the sideline with a boot and crutches.

"It was a big blow to lose (Shipp)," Anderson said. "There again, we weren't supposed to beat a team like this, we weren't supposed to be able to do it without him, but we did."

The Warrior comeback started with 5:12 left in the third quarter, when Hall came up big again for the Warriors. The speedy quarterback found a hole in the defense and sprinted down the left sidelines 55 yard on third and three for the touchdown to bring East Central the score to 21-12. East Central would miss the extra point for the second time in the game, but the Warriors could smell the upset.

"I just came out there and tried to give us some life," Hall said. "All I needed to see was one hole, and I made the play. I knew we were back in the game then."

Then things started to turn.

The Hinds offense that seemed to steadily roll in the first half became anemic, as the Warriors were able to provide pressure and fluster the Eagles.

After forcing the Eagles to punt early the fourth quarter, East Central was ready to strike.

See **ECCC** on page C?

WEEK OF October 7, 2012

Winston Warriors

These former football standouts from Winston County schools are members of the 2012 East Central Community College Warrior squad. From left are running back Martin Johnson (17), offensive lineman Johnny Kight (65) and defensive back Dominique Carter (24), all of Nanih Waiya. Brian Anderson serves as ECCC head coach. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF October 7, 2002

Neshoba County 'Warriors'

These former football standouts from Neshoba County are members of the 2012 East Central Community College Warrior squad. From left are wide receiver Georgio Grace (21), a product of Philadelphia High School, and offensive lineman Dustin Tubby (71) of Neshoba Central. Brian Anderson serves as head coach. (EC Photo)

ECCC Warriors fall victim in homecoming bout, 46-21

After posting two straight MACJC South Division victories, East Central Community College's Warriors were unable to overcome an early 20-0 deficit and were outscored 46-21 by Jones County Junior College Saturday afternoon on the Ellisville campus.

EC dropped to 2-4 overall and 2-2 in league play while the Bobcats improved to 4-2 and 3-1 following the homecoming victory.

The Warriors were led by sophomore Brock Hall who scored on runs of 31 and 19 yards and connected with receiver Ricky Hunt on a 57-yard TD strike. Freshman kicker Austin Franklin of Petal made all three PATs. His best punt covered 56 yards.

Hall, a product of Paul W. Bryant High School in Tuscaloosa, completed 10 of 25 passes for 138 yards and had two interceptions. He also led in rushing with nine carries for 73 yards.

Hunt, who normally plays defensive back, was Hall's leading receiver with three grabs for 64 yards. Hunt is a product of North Panola High School in Sardis.

Ethan Hamilton tossed TD passes of 25 and 63 yards to fellow freshman Dylan Bossier in his first start as the Bobcat signal caller.

Hamilton is a product of Noxapater High School. Bossier hails from Teurlings Catholic High School in Lafayette, La.

Sophomore rusher Reuben Ducksworth of Mount Olive also tallied twice for Jones, as he found pay dirt on a one-yard run early in second quarter action and later on a seven-yard scoring play in the final stanza.

The Bobcats' final TD came on Jamichael Willis' 38-yard return of Franklin's onside kick with just over four minutes remaining. Willis is a product of Gardendale (Ala.) High School.

Freshman kicker Grant McLaurin accounted for the Bobcats' other points by connecting on field goals of 21 and 41 yards for an early 6-0 lead. The Forrest County AHS product made four of six PATs.

Next up for EC is another homecoming affair scheduled at Mississippi Delta Community College Saturday, Oct. 13. Kickoff for the non-division battle is set for 2 p.m. on the Moorhead campus.

The Trojans are winless in six starts.

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

CLARION-LEDGER

WEEK OF October 7, 2012

Former Warriors honored

Members of the 1981 and 1982 East Central Community College Warrior football teams were among special groups honored during the college's homecoming celebration held Sept. 29 on the Decatur campus. Pictured are (front row, from left) Todd Wall of Brandon, Doug Hubbard of Lucedale, Jay Jones of Meridian, Alice Pouncey of Decatur, whose husband, the late Ken Pouncey, served as head coach; Daniel Winstead of Philadelphia, Randall Lee of Decatur and Bob Posey of Philadelphia; and (back row, from left) Joe Sharp of Flowood, Mike Hawthorne of Gray, Ga.; Chris Perry of Decatur, Joe Douglas of Newnan, Ga.; Fred Lyons of Decatur, Joe Killens of Philadelphia and Phil Smith of Decatur.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF October 7, 2012

ECCC falls victim at JCJC on homecoming

After posting two straight MACJC South Division victories, East Central Community College's Warriors were unable to overcome an early 20-0 deficit and were outscored 46-21 by Jones County Junior College Saturday afternoon.

EC dropped to 2-4 overall and 2-2 in league play while the Bobcats improved to 4-2 and 3-1 following the homecoming victory.

The Warriors were led by sophomore Brock Hall who scored on runs of 31 and 19 yards and connected with receiver Ricky Hunt on a 57-yard TD strike. Freshman kicker Austin Franklin made all three PATs. His best punt covered 56 yards.

Hall completed 10 of 25 passes for 138 yards and had two interceptions. He also led in rushing with nine carries for 73 yards.

Hunt, who normally plays defensive back, was Hall's leading receiver with three grabs for 64 yards. Hunt is a product of North Panola High School in Sardis.

Ethan Hamilton tossed TD passes of 25 and 63 yards to fellow freshman Dylan Bossier in his first start as the Bobcat signal caller.

Sophomore rusher Reuben Ducksworth also tallied twice for Jones, as he found pay dirt on a one-yard run early in second quarter action and later on a seven-yard scoring play in the final stanza.

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Next up for EC is another homecoming affair scheduled at Mississippi Delta Community College Saturday, Oct. 13. Kickoff for the non-division battle is set for 2 p.m. The Trojans are winless in six starts.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF October 7, 2012

Scott County 'Warriors'

These former football standouts from Scott County are members of the 2012 East Central Community College Warrior squad. Seated from left are defensive lineman Maher Bradford (81), Scott Central; and wide receiver Wesley Smith (81) and defensive back Za Reese (4), both of Morton. Standing from left are defensive lineman LaKenneth Weidman (81), South Leake; defensive lineman Bradley Dorsey (90), Morton; and offensive lineman Shaquille Patrick (74), Scott Central. Brian Anderson serves as ECCC head coach. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF October 14, 2012

JUNIOR COLLEGES

East Central 31, Miss. Delta 0

MOORHEAD — Brock Hall passed for 159 yards with two touchdowns as the Warriors thumped the Trojans on homecoming.

Hall hooked up with Kyle Koch from 32 yards out and Ricky Hunt from 28 yards. Johnny Beamon had a 3-yard touchdown run for East Central (3-4). Mississippi Delta fell to 0-7.

JUCO FOOTBALL

SATURDAY'S GAMES

EAST CENTRAL 31, MISSISSIPPI DELTA 0

East Central (3-4)	7	14	7	3	— 31
Mississippi Delta (0-7)	0	0	0	0	— 0

EC — Lawrence 38 interception return (Franklin kick). **EC** — Koch 32 pass from Hall (Franklin kick). **EC** — Hunt 28 pass from Hall (Franklin kick). **EC** — Beamon 3 run (Franklin kick). **EC** — Franklin 31 FG.

JUCO SOCCER

LATE FRIDAY

Men

East Central 2, Hinds 1 (2OT)

Women

East Central 1, Hinds 0

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER √ x3

ECCC spoils Delta's homecoming, 31-0

October 14, 2012

East Central Community College quarterback Brock Hall threw for two scores and the Warrior defense completely shut down the Mississippi Delta Community College offensive attack in cruising 31-0 over the Trojans Saturday.

EC improved to 3-4 following the non-division victory, while Delta dropped its homecoming battle and fell to 0-7.

Warrior head coach Brian Anderson was especially proud of his team's shut-out victory.

"I just cannot say enough about our players' efforts," said Anderson in a post-game interview. "This team figured out the importance of playing together as 'one' about four weeks ago and haven't looked back. This squad is special to me in the fact that they have bought into the team concept, which a lot of junior colleges don't ever seem to do."

Anderson had special praise for the defensive unit, which held Delta to under 100 yards rushing and allowed no passing yards – a statistic that obviously belongs in the record book.

"I don't care if you're playing Pee Wee football, a shut out is special. But when you consider the athletes that this league has, today was even more remarkable," he said. "In fact, this was the first shut out East Central has had since 2005 (26-0 win over East MS). This afternoon we scored on stand and pitched a shut out – it was a great effort! I was pleased with our offense as well, aside from a couple of turnovers. Our special teams were solid today – kicking, punting and coverage-wise. I thought we got better today as a team."

It was the defense that scored first for the Warriors, as freshman defensive back Deante Lawrence intercepted Delta quarterback Justin Leavy and returned the pigskin 38 yards to pay dirt with 11:36 remaining in the opening stanza. Leavy's pass was deflected by defensive back Desmond Brown and Lawrence completed the pick-six. Austin Franklin of Petal connected on the first on his four PATs for the day.

Delta threatened to score later in the period following a Warrior muffed punt that gave the Trojans possession at the EC eight yard line. But the EC defense held and regained possession following a Delta fumble on the 12 yard line.

The turnover obviously inspired the Warrior offense, as Hall led the squad on a 14-play, 88-yard drive capped by his 32-yard TD strike to wide receiver Kyle Koch with 13:50 remaining until halftime. Koch is a product of Calvary Christian School in Meridian. The scoring march was aided by a roughing-the-punter penalty that gave EC possession on the Delta 43.

EC stretched its lead TD toss to Ricky Hunt with 1:58 left before the break. Hunt is from North Panola High School. The one-play drive was set up by a Trojan 20-yard punt.

The Warriors had threatened to score on the previous drive but a turnover gave Delta possession on its three-yard-line.

The Warriors continued their dominance of Delta by scoring on the first possession of the second half – a three-yard run by Johnny Beamon of New Hope. The six-play, 68-yard march was highlighted by Hall's 49-yard pass to Hunt to the three-yard-line.

The Trojans, now down 28-0, drove into Warrior territory on their next possession but the threat ended when linebacker Layton Holcomb of Oak Grove intercepted Leavy's pass on the EC 42.

The Warriors would later turn the ball over deep in Delta territory, ending a scoring opportunity at the 18-yard-line late in third period action.

EC's final points of the day came midway in the fourth quarter on Franklin's 31-yard field goal, capping a 15-play, 83-yard march.

Hall finished the day by completing seven of 11 passes for 159 yards and the two scores.

Beamon was the top rusher with 21 carries for 81 yards.

Hunt was the top receiver with two grabs for 78 yards and a touchdown.

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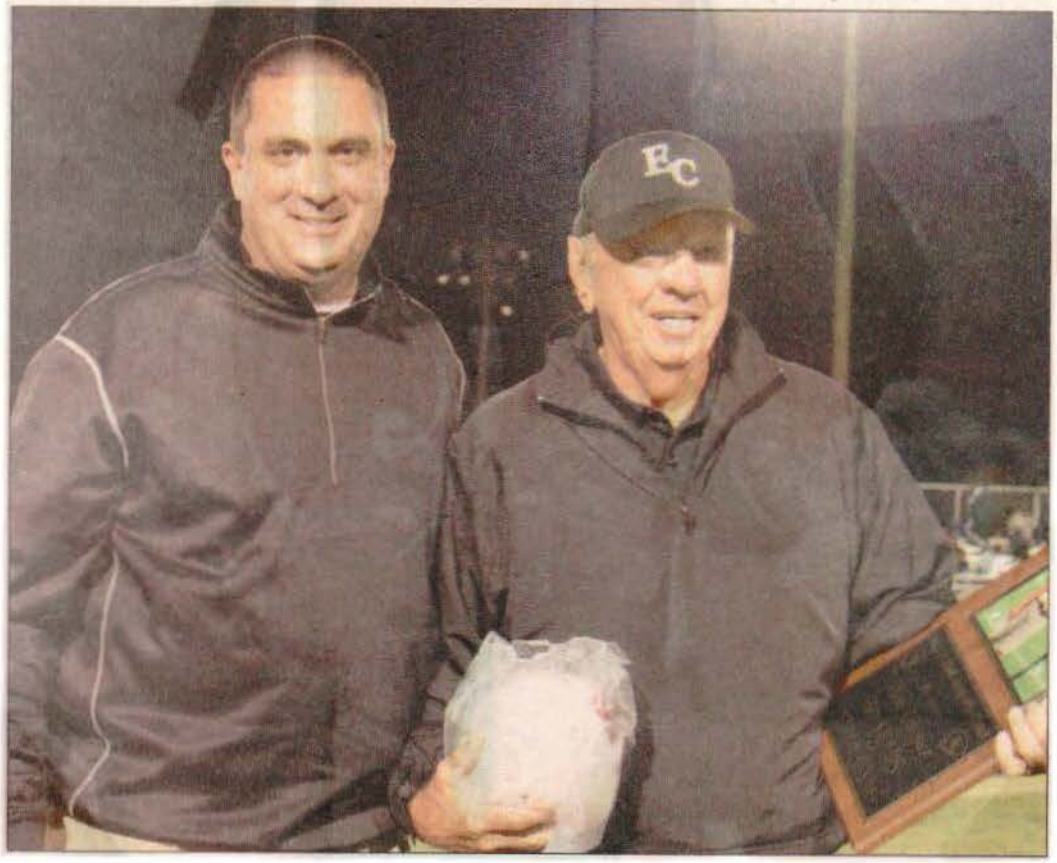
WEEK OF October 21, 2012

ECCC honors Cooper



ECCC alumnus Don Cooper (right) of Decatur was presented a plaque of appreciation during Thursday night's game for his 50 years of service as a member of the Chain Crew for Warrior football games. Cooper began marking first-downs" for home games in 1962, when then coach Dan Chatwood asked him to join Bill Mashburg and Roy Bridenger on the sidelines.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF October 21-2012

ECCC falls to Pearl River 37-7 in home finale

Hopes for a winning season faded early Thursday night for the East Central Community Warriors who were unable to overcome a 17-0 halftime deficit, turnovers, penalties and a Pearl River Community College offensive attack led by sophomore quarterback Dylan Favre, a nephew of former NFL star Brett Favre.

Although the Warriors trimmed the deficit to 17-7 early in the third stanza on Martin Johnson's electrifying 75-yard scamper to pay dirt, EC could get no closer and fell 37-7 on Sophomore Appreciation Night at Bailey Stadium on the Decatur campus.

EC and Pearl River are both 3-5 overall and 2-3 in the MACJC South Division following the league battle. The Warriors conclude the 2012 season as homecoming guests of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Saturday, October 27. Kickoff for the division battle is set for 2 p.m. on the Perkinston campus.

The Bulldogs are 6-1 overall and 3-1 in league play prior to taking on division leader Copiah-Lincoln Community College (6-1, 4-0) Saturday, Oct. 19 in Wesson.

The recognition of Warrior sophomores during pre-game activities was preceded by delivery of the game ball by an Air Evac Lifeteam helicopter, which landed at midfield. Flight nurse and EC alumnus Courtney Townsend of Forest presented the game ball to EC President Dr. Billy Stewart. She was accompanied by paramedic Brian Taylor of Conehatta, also an EC alumnus. The medical helicopter is based in Demopolis, Ala., and services most of Mississippi and Alabama.

On a perfect night for football, EC's offense had more than its share of misfortunes and was unable to take advantage of early scoring opportunities.

Freshman kicker Austin Franklin of Petal was wide left on his 43-yard field goal attempt with 7:14 left in the first period, and another scoring threat was nixed on EC's subsequent possession when a pass from sophomore quarterback Brock Hall was intercepted in the end zone by Wildcat defensive back Travonte Fenton of Oak Grove late in the first stanza and returned to the PRC 11 yard line. Hall is a product of Paul W. Bryant High School in Tuscaloosa.

The Wildcats took advantage of the Warrior miscue with an 89-yard, 10-play drive, capped by Favre's four-yard TD toss to wide receiver Kris Riley of Orange Park, Fla. The drive was aided by a 41-yard jaunt by running back Cheeto Johnson of Forrest County AHS to the EC 29 followed by a roughing-the-passer penalty which gave the visitors first and goal at the Warrior seven. Brandon King of Florence connected on the first of his four PATs.

Pearl River stretched is lead to 14-0 on a 69-yard halfback pass from Darius Holder of Lumberton to wide receiver Akeem Pollard of Petal with 6:20 left before halftime. The tally followed defensive back Leon Carlton's interception of a Hall pass at the Pearl River six. Carlton is from Hoover, Ala.

The Wildcats closed out first-half scoring on Mike Allizzo's 31-yard field goal with three seconds left. Allizzo is an Ocean Springs product.

EC closed the scoring gap to 17-7 on Johnson's 75-yard scamper to begin the second half. Martin is a freshman running back from Nanih Waiya. Franklin added the PAT.

The Wildcats responded with Favre's 51-yard scramble to pay dirt on third and seven with 10:49 left in the third stanza. Favre is a Mississippi State University transfer and product of St. Stanislaus High School.

Now down 24-7, EC took possession on its 26 yard-line and quickly drove to the Pearl River 13, highlighted by Hall's 22-yard strike to wide receiver Keivondre Watford of Tuscaloosa Central to the Wildcat 39. Hall's 12-yard scramble and subsequent penalty for a late hit set up a scoring opportunity at the 13. But the drive stalled and Franklin's 37-yard field goal attempt was wide left with 6:42 still remaining in the third.

The Wildcats padded their lead to 31-7 on the ensuing possession, with Favre connecting with Johnson on a six-yard TD pass with just over three minutes left in the third quarter.

EC tried a little trickery on the ensuing kickoff with Johnson emerging from a cluster of players for an 81-yard run to the PRC 14, but the play was nullified due to an illegal forward handoff, according to officials.

The Warriors began possession on their three-yard-line as a result of the penalty but quickly drove into Wildcat territory thanks to Hall's 55-yard completion to Ricky Hunt of North Panola. But the Warriors later fumbled and Pearl River took passes for 139 yards and three interceptions. Thrasher connected one of five attempts for 12 yards and had one pick.

Hunt was the top receiver with five catches for 72 yards. Watford had two grabs for 43 yards.

Johnson was the leading rusher with 12 carries for 143 yards and one score.

Johnny Beamon had 17 carries for 81 yards. Beamon is a product of New Hope High School.

Hall rushed 10 times for 39 yards.

Franklin averaged 37 yards on three punts.

EC was assessed 11 times for 95 yards and Pearl River was penalized nine times for 100 yards.

Favre completed 17 of 28 passes for 200 yards and two scores. Holder completed one pass for 69 yards and a touchdown.

Jones was the top receiver with six catches for 94 yards.

Cheeto Johnson was the Wildcats' top rusher with 20 carries for 91 yards.

Linebacker Cory Houck led the EC defensive with seven tackles. Houck is a product of Union County (Fla.) High School.

Defensive lineman Martaze Jackson of Demopolis was credited with six tackles.

Pearl River took advantage of the miscue with Allizzo's 40-yard field goal early in the final stanza.

The game's final points came on King's 35-yard field goal with 6:27 left, set up by Wildcat Emmanuel Ray's interception of a Zak Thrasher pass at the EC 32-yard line. Ray is from Lumberton. Thrasher is a product of New Hope High School.

Hall completed nine of 26

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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WEEK OF October 28, 2012

Gulf Coast blasts ECCC, wraps up MACJC South

from staff reports

41

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East Central Community College wanted to end its most successful season since 2008 on a positive note. Mississippi Gulf Coast didn't get the memo as the Bulldogs hammered the visiting Warriors 41-0 in the regular season finale in Perkinston.

ECCC ends its season 3-6, the most wins for the Warriors since a 4-5 mark in 2008. Gulf Coast, meanwhile, wrapped up the MACJC South Division title with the win and the 8-1 Bulldogs will host Northwest Mississippi in a state semi-final Saturday.

It didn't take Gulf Coast long to get started Saturday either. Less than two minutes in, JoJo Snell hauled in a 43-yard touchdown pass from Clint Hatten.

Detrick Goff scored on a 1-yard run at the 8:22 mark of the first quarter and Gulf Coast added a two-point conversion to push the lead to 14-0. Four minutes later, Byron James hauled in a 9-yard scoring pass. Less than a minute into the second quarter, Elijah Hughes recovered a fumble for a Gulf Coast score and Dhaquille Williams' 30-yard touchdown reception gave the Bulldogs a 34-0 halftime lead. Goff added a 3-yard scoring run in the fourth.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

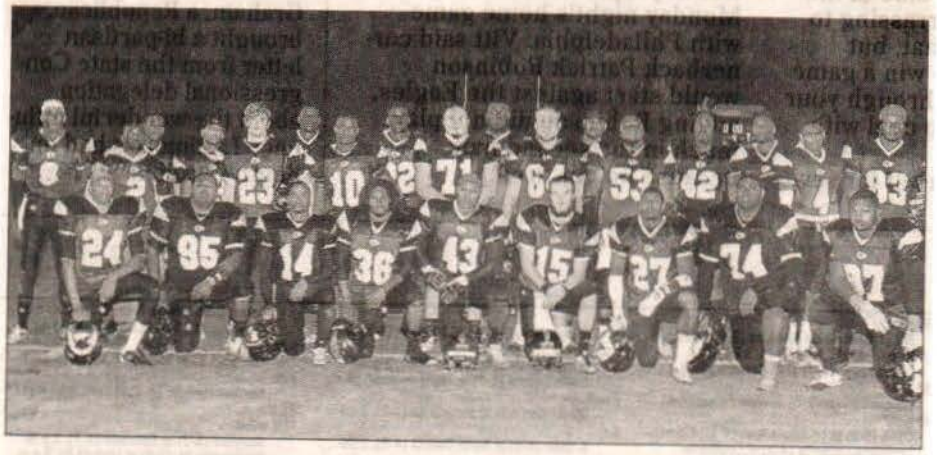
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF October 28, 2012

ECCC SOPHOMORES



ECCC photo

It was "Sophomore Appreciation Night" for the above East Central Community College football players who received special recognition prior to the home finale with Pearl River Community College on Oct. 18 at Bailey Stadium. Honorees include (kneeling from left) Dominque Carter (24); Kalvin Smith (95), Newton County; Ben Brooks (14), Northeast Lauderdale; Terrance Dentry (36); Martaze Jackson (43); Zak Thrasher (15); Desmund Brown (27); Shaquille Patrick (74); Maha Bradford (97); (second row, from left) Keshun Shipp (2); Freeman Gray (23); Demarius Pegues (10); Dustin Tubby (71), Neshoba Central; Hunter Green (64); Paul Kirkman (53); Cordell Page (42); Za Reese (4); LaKenneth Weidman (83); and (third row, from left) Brock Hall (8); Georgio Grace (21), Philadelphia; Ricky Hunt (13); Steven Fuller (5) and Steffon Fuller (22), both of Kemper County; Bradley Dorsey (90); Bart Whigham (70); and Keivondre Watford (3).

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF October 28, 2012

ECCC 55 Coahoma 54

The East Central Community College women's basketball team beat Coahoma 55-54 Thursday night.

The Warriors were led by Jaianah Matthew who scored 18 points on the night. Renisha Evans had 11 points for the Warriors as well.

Thurday's win was former Newton basketball coach Crandal Porter's first as head coach for East Central.

Coahoma 76 ECCC 71

The East Central men's basketball team fell to Coahoma 76-71 Thursday night. Hakeem Wesley led the Warriors in a losing effor, scoring 24 points and three assists on the night. Aquill Baynard had a double-double on the night scoring 15 points to go along with 12 rebounds on the night.

Alex Thompson led Coahoma with 13 points in the win.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR √x2

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

OF October 28, 2012

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EDGER

ECCC Warriors fall 41-0 to Gulf Coast

ECCC photo

East Central Community College quarterback Brock Hall (8) ies to avoid Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College lefenders in the Warriors' season finale Saturday, Oct. 27 on ne Perkinston campus. Hall is a sophomore and product of Paul W. Bryant High School in Tuscaloosa.

Season competition came to an end for the East Central Community College Warriors who were 41-0 homecoming victims of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College on a cold, windy and overcast Saturday afternoon at A.L. May Stadium on the Perkinston campus.

EC finished 3-6 overall and 2-4 in the MACJC South Division under fourth-year head coach Brian Anderson, while division winner Gulf Coast improved to 8-1 and 6-1.

The Bulldogs host Northwest Mississippi Community College Saturday, Nov. 3 in semi-final action of the MACJC State Football Championship. Copiah-Lincoln travels to North Division winner East Mississippi in the other semi-final matchup.

Gulf Coast took a commanding 34-0 lead at halftime and added a final tally in the fourth stanza as the Warriors suffered their first shutout since a 23-0 defeat to Southwest in 2003.

Bulldog quarterback Clint Hatten accounted for three scores, as the sophomore from Stone County had touchdown strikes to JoJo Snell for 42 yards, Byron James for five yards and Dhaquille Williams for 30 yards. Snell and James are both Moss Point High School products and Williams hails from East St. John in Laplace, La. Hatten also connected with Williams for a two-point conversion.

Running back Detrick Goff also found pay dirt for the Bulldogs, as he scored on a one-yard plunge in the first period and a three-yard scamper in the final stanza. Goff is a product of Hancock High School.

The Bulldog defense also found the end zone, as Elijah Hughes scooped up a fumble following a high snap to Warrior punter Austin Franklin of Petal and carried the pigskin 12 yards to pay dirt. Hughes is a product of Elizabeth (N.J.) High School.

Freshman kicker Stephen Braucle of Gulfport made three of five PATs.

Sophomores Brock Hall and Zak Thrash shared quarterbacking duties for the Warrio

Hall completed seven of 19 passes for yards and had one interception. His longe completion was to Georgio Grace, which co ered 48 yards. Hall is a product of Paul Bryant High School in Tuscaloosa. Gra hails from Philadelphia High School.

Thrasher, a New Hope High School pro uct, completed three of six passes for 14 yar and also had an interception.

Freshman running back Martin Johns led EC's rushing attack with 21 carries for yards. His longest run went 34 yards. Johns is a product of Philadelphia High School.

Hall had 11 carries for 22 yards.

Franklin averaged 32 yards on four pun His longest effort went 43 yards.

Gulf Coast had 232 yards rushing and 1 yards passing for a 408 total.

APPEARED IN:
CARTHAGINIAN
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SPIRIT OF MORTO
MERIDIAN STAR

WEEK OF December 2, 2012

ECCC Fires Head Football Coach

The search is under way for a new head football coach at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Dr. Billy W. Stewart.

Dr. Stewart made the announcement following Tuesday's meeting of the College's Board of Trustees, which approved the change in leadership of the Warrior football program.

"We have decided to go in a different direction with our football program effective today (December 4, 2012)," said Dr. Stewart. "Brian Anderson will be reassigned to other duties at the College until his contract expires on June 30, 2013. We thank Brian for his five years of service to the East Central football team."

Anderson has guided the Warriors the past four years, compiling an overall mark of 9-27.

He was named head coach on an interim basis in 2009, when the Warriors went 2-7. The squad also posted 2-7 seasons in 2010 and 2011. The Warriors recently completed a 3-6 campaign.

Anderson joined the ECCC staff in 2008 as offensive coordinator and continued serving in that capacity as head coach.

Prior to joining the Warrior program, Anderson served as head coach and offensive coordinator at Grenada High School in 2007-08 and led the Philadelphia High School football program from 2004-06.

He is also a former assistant at Neshoba Central High School (1996-97) and Meridian High School (1999-2003).

A Prattville, Ala., native, Anderson was a standout football player at Mississippi State University, where the three-year starter was an All-SEC selection at center during his junior and senior seasons and was a member of three bowl teams. He was also a member of the All-SEC Academic Team for three years and was selected to play in the Blue-Gray All-Star and East-West Shrine All-Star games. He was selected for the NFL Combine in 1996.

Dr. Stewart said applications for a new head football coach will be received until December 26, 2012. A committee headed by athletic director Chris Harris will interview candidates and submit a recommendation for consideration.

"I am confident that several qualified candidates will be interested in leading the Warrior football team as we strive for excellence in the classroom and on the field of play. We hope to name a new head football coach in January 2013 and present that recommendation for ratification by the College's Board of Trustees at their February 2013 meeting. We then look forward to working with the new coach and our student-athletes to move our program forward and achieve great things both academically and athletically," said Dr. Stewart.

For more information, refer to the position opening announcement for head football coach located on the College Web site (www.eccc.edu).

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

Other WTOK-TV

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

EEK OF December 2, 2012

APPEARED IN:
CARTHAGINIAN
NEWTON COUNTY A DEMOCRAT
SPIRIT OF MORTON COUNTY TIMES
MERIDIAN STAR COUNTY JOURNAL
LEDGER

Paula Merritt/ The Meridian Star

Former ECCC head coach Brian Anderson greats a Warrior player during a game this season. Anderson was 9-27 as ECCC head coach.

Brian Anderson done as head coach

ECCC begins search for replacement

By Tony Tsoukalas
ttsoukalas@themeridianstar.com

East Central Community College has elected not to retain head football coach Brian Anderson for the 2013 season, ECCC President Billy W. Stewart announced Tuesday.

According to school reports, Stewart made the announcement following Tuesday's meeting of the college's board of trustees meeting, which approved the change in leadership for the program.

"We have decided to go in a different direction with our football program effective today (December 4, 2012)," Stewart said. "Brian Anderson will be reassigned to other duties at the College until his contract expires on June 30, 2013. We thank Brian for his five years of service to the East Central football team."

Anderson led the Warriors to a 9-27 record during his four years as head coach. He was named head coach on an interim basis in 2009, when the Warriors went 2-7. After posting 2-7 season in 2010 and 2011, ECCC finished the past season 3-6.

"I'd like to thank East Central for the opportunity to serve as head football coach," Anderson said. "The kids that we have recruited and the coaches I have worked along side for several years have

See ECCC on page B2

WEEK OF _____

Paula Merritt/ The Meridian Start

Former East Central head coach Brian Anderson takes off his head set to talk to players. East Central will not bring Anderson back for the 2013 season.

ECCC from page B1

been a joy to be around. I have met a lot of great people during my time at East Central.

"As coaches, we are stubborn, and we want to do things people say can't be done. East Central is a place where we wanted to turn the tide and try to build a winning tradition there. Things just didn't work out."

Anderson was not given a chance to break the news to his former players, as the school has asked him not to speak with the team at this time.

"The school thought it would be in the best interest for me not to speak with the team," Anderson said. "I would like to at some point be allowed to address the team."

Anderson said he was not surprised by the decision and said the decision was mutual, in order to allow the school to find a replacement and continue its recruiting for the upcoming season.

The native of Prattville, Ala., Anderson is a former assistant at Neshoba Central High School from 1996-97 and at Meridian in 1999-2003. The former head coach said he will now take time to consult with his family before deciding on his future.

"It is really what is best for my family and I," Anderson said. "That is something that everybody says, but I mean it. Every move that we make, we make for our children first. This is a decision that will be prayed over, and God will put us where he wants us."

According to a school reports, applications for a new football coach will be received until Dec. 26. A committee headed by athletic director Chris Harris will interview candidates and submit a recommendation for consideration.

"I am confident that several qualified candidates will be interested in leading the Warrior football team as we strive for excellence in the classroom and on the field of play," Stewart said. "We hope to name a new head football coach in January 2013 and present that recommendation for ratification by the College's Board of Trustees at their February 2013 meeting. We then look forward to working with the new coach and our student-athletes to move our program forward and achieve great things both academically and athletically."

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

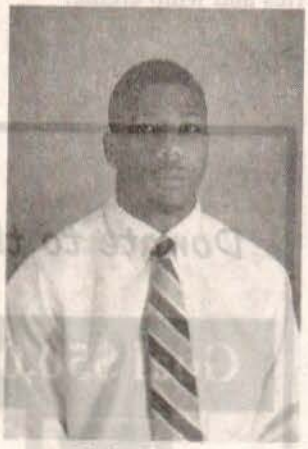
CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF December 9, 2012

Four ECCC Warriors Named MACJC South All-Stars

Za Reese

Shaquille Patrick



Ricky Hunt

Dustin Tubby

Four East Central Community College football standouts have been selected to participate in the 39th annual MACJC All-Star Classic scheduled Saturday, Dec. 1, 2012, at Northeast Mississippi Community College in Booneville. Kickoff is set for 1 p.m. at Tiger Stadium.

Warriors tapped as MACJC South Division All-Stars are wide receiver/defensive back Ricky Hunt (5-11, 180), a product of North Panola High School, defensive back Za Reese (6-1, 160) of Morton, and offensive linemen Dustin Tubby (6-2, 315) of Neshoba Central and Shaquille Patrick (6-5, 320) of Scott Central.

Hinds Community College head football coach Gene Murphy and his staff will coach the South All-Stars. Freeman Horton and his Coahoma Community College staff will direct the North squad.

The MACJC All-Star Classic features some of the state's top JUCO players each year and serves as a springboard from community college to the next level of football competition. Numerous athletes from past All-Star Classics have continued their careers on the university level.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF December 9, 2012

ECCC begins search for new head football coach

Anderson reassigned to finish contract

DECATUR — The search is under way for a new head football coach at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Dr. Billy W. Stewart.

Dr. Stewart made the announcement following Tuesday's meeting of the College's Board of Trustees, which approved the change in leadership of the Warrior football program.

"We have decided to go in a different direction with our football program effective today (December 4, 2012)," said Dr. Stewart.

"Brian Anderson will be reassigned to other duties at the College until his contract expires on June 30, 2013. We thank Brian for his five years of service to the East Central football team."

Anderson

Anderson has guided the Warriors the past four years, compiling an overall mark of 9-27.

He was named head coach on an interim basis in 2009, when the Warriors went 2-7. The squad also posted 2-7 seasons in 2010 and 2011. The Warriors recently completed a 3-6 campaign.

Anderson joined the ECCC staff in 2008 as offensive coordinator and continued serving in that capacity as head coach.

Prior to joining the Warrior program, Anderson served as head coach and offensive coordinator at Grenada High School in 2007-08 and led the Philadelphia High School football program from 2004-06.

He is also a former assistant at Neshoba Central High School (1996-97) and Meridian High School (1999-2003).

A Prattville, Ala., native, Anderson was a standout football player at Mississippi State University, where the three-year starter was an All-SEC selection at center during his junior and senior seasons and was a member of three bowl teams.

He was also a member of the All-SEC Academic Team for three years and was selected to play in the Blue-Gray All-Star and East-West Shrine All-Star games. He was selected for the NFL Combine in 1996.

Dr. Stewart said applications for a new head football coach will be received until December 26. A committee headed by athletic director Chris Harris will interview candidates and submit a recommendation for consideration.

"I am confident that several qualified candidates will be interested in leading the Warrior football team as we strive for excellence in the classroom and on the field of play. We hope to name a new head football coach in January 2013 and present that recommendation for ratification by the College's Board of Trustees at their February 2013 meeting.

"We then look forward to working with the new coach and our student-athletes to move our program forward and achieve great things both academically and athletically," said Dr. Stewart.

For more information, refer to the position opening announcement for head football coach located on the College Web site (www.eccc.edu).

APPEARED IN:

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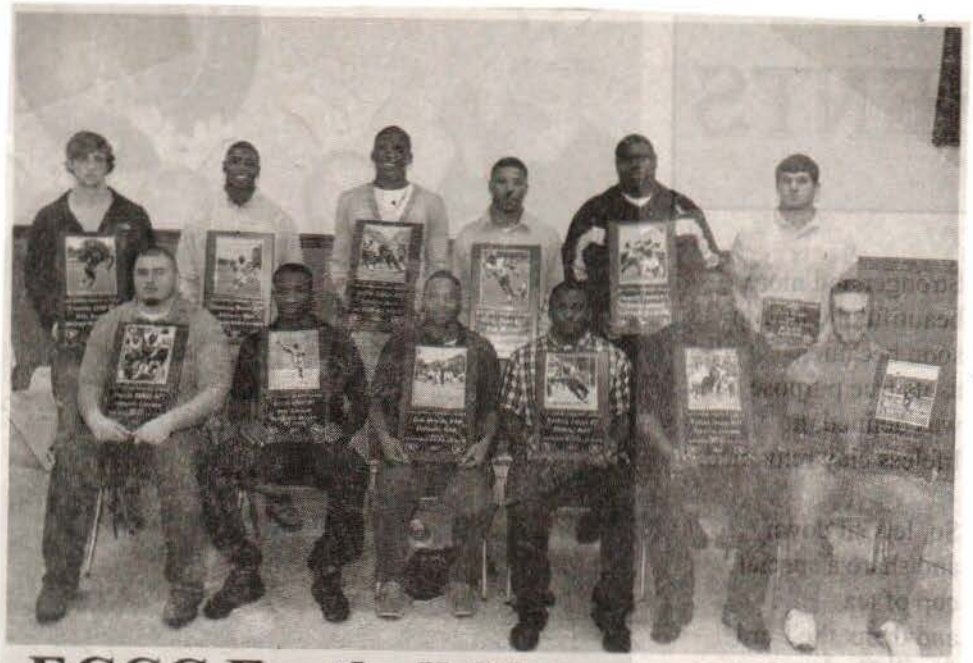
WEEK OF December 23, 2012



ECCC Football Players Honored

Numerous members of the 2012 East Central Community College football team received honors at the annual Fall Sports Banquet held Dec. 5, 2012, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus. Award winners and their respective high schools include (seated from left) offensive lineman Dustin Tubby of Neshoba Central, Captain's Award, MACJC All-Star and honorable mention MACJC All-State; quarterback/wide receiver Brock Hall of Paul W. Bryant HS in Tuscaloosa, honorable mention MACJC All-State; defensive back Ben Brooks of Northeast Lauderdale in Meridian, Captain's Award, honorable mention MACJC All-State; running back Keshun Shipp of Olive Branch, Captain's Award, honorable mention MACJC All-State; defensive lineman Kalvin Smith of Newton County, Captain's Award, honorable mention MACJC All-State; and quarterback Zak Thrasher of New Hope in Columbus, Academic Award; and (standing from left) wide receiver Freeman Gray of Tunica Academy and defensive back Desmond Brown of Cherokee County, Ala., both honorable mention MACJC All-State; defensive back Steffon Fuller of Kemper County, first team MACJC All-State; defensive back/return specialist Ricky Hunt of North Panola, MACJC All-Star and second team MACJC All-State; offensive lineman Shaquille Patrick of Scott Central, MACJC All-Star and second team MACJC All-State; and linebacker Cory Houck, Union County, Fla., second team, MACJC All-State. Not pictured are offensive lineman Bart Whigham of Northview, Ala., second team MACJC All-State; defensive lineman Martaze Jackson of Demopolis, second team MACJC All-State; and defensive back Za Reese of Morton, MACJC All-Star. ECCC President Dr. Billy W. Stewart and assistant football coaches Kyle Watson and Blake Frazier presented awards. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

ECCC presents honors to players

Members of East Central Community College's football and soccer teams received special recognition at the annual Fall Sports Awards Banquet held December 5, 2012, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus.

Athletic Director Chris Harris provided remarks and recognized coaches and players for their hard work and dedication throughout the year.

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart also paid tribute to coaches and players and presented academic award recipients in each sport.

In women's soccer, award winners and respective high schools include Kelsey Tadlock of Newton County, Academic Award (3.936 GPA), Team Co-Captain Award; Golden Boot Award (12 goals, two assists, 26 points; finished seventh in scoring in MACJC North Division, 15th in Region 23/MACJC); and All-Region 23 (only repeat player out of 11 selected to team); Paige Gower of Clarkdale, Defense Award and honorable mention MACJC All-State; Kennedy Castleberry of Clarkdale, Hustle Award; Alana Turner of Florence, Team Most Valuable Player, Team Co-Captain Award and MACJC All-State; and Erin Thornton of Newton County, Warrior Award and honorable mention MACJC All-State.

Sophomore players were also recognized and presented letters. Honorees included Kelsey Tadlock, Lynea Moreland and Erin Thornton, all of Newton County; Haley Covert, West Lauderdale; and Rachel Field, Oxford Hills Christian Academy, Auburn, Maine.

The Lady Soccer Warriors finished 3-14 overall and 2-6 in the MACJC North Division.

Award-winners in men's soccer and their respective high schools include Zack Killion of South Oldham High School, Crestwood, KY, Academic Award (3.608 GPA); McGee Ledbetter of Heritage Academy in Columbus, Golden Boot Award (14 goals, one assist, 29 points; top scorer in MACJC North Division and MACJC); Team Co-Captain Award, All-Region 23 (top scorer) and Region 23 Player of the Year; Jesse Vaughn of Newton County, Defense Award and MACJC All-State; Taylor Potter of Bentonia, MS School for Math and Science, Hustle Award and MACJC All-State; Jared Canoy of Biloxi, West Harrison, Team Most Valuable Player, Team Co-Captain Award and MACJC All-State; Russ Thompson of Newton County, MACJC All-State; Drew Norman of Florence, and Will Thompson and Jordan Walker, both of Newton County, honorable mention MACJC All-State; and Bryor Shorter of Florence, Warrior Award.

Chris Harris, East Central Community College athletic director, addresses a large crowd in attendance for the Fall Sports Awards Banquet held Dec. 5 in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus. Numerous honors were presented to football and soccer players at the annual program.

Sophomore players were also recognized and presented letters. Honorees included Bryor Shorter, Rhyne Riebock, Drew Norman and Deshawn Kitchens, all of Florence; Tyravian Miller, Moss Point; McGee Ledbetter, Heritage Academy, Columbus; Jose Aju, Eupora; Ronnie Tisdale, Pascagoula; Zack Killion, South Oldham, Crestwood, KY; Clay Aikens, McLaurin; Jacob Norman, Gulfport; and Jared Canoy, West Harrison.

The Soccer Warriors completed the program's best season by capturing a share of the MACJC North Division title with a 5-2-1 mark and earning a first-ever berth in the state playoffs en route to a 10-5-3 mark.

Soccer coach Kenneth Thompson presented awards.

Football players who received awards included offensive lineman Dustin Tubby of Neshoba Central, Captain's Award, MACJC All-Star and honorable mention MACJC All-State; quarterback/receiver Brock Hall of Paul W. Bryant in Tuscaloosa, honorable mention MACJC All-State; defensive back Ben Brooks of Northeast Lauderdale, Captain's Award and honorable mention MACJC All-State; quarterback Zack Thrasher of New Hope in Columbus, Academic Award (3.67 GPA); wide receiver Freeman Gray of Tunic Academy, honorable mentio MACJC All-State; defensiv back Desmond Brown o Cherokee County, Ala., honor able mention MACJC All-State defensive back Steffon Fuller o Kemper County, first tean MACJC All-State; defensiv back/return specialist Ricky Hun of North Panola, MACJC All State; offensive linema Shaquille Patrick of Scot Central, MACJC All-Star an second team MACJC All-State linebacker Cory Houck of Unio County, Fla., second tean MACJC All-State; offensive line man Bart Whigham o Northview, Ala., second tean MACJC All-State; defensiv lineman Martaze Jackson o Demopolis, second team MACJ All-State; and defensive back Z Reese of Morton, MACJC All Star.

Assistant coaches Kyl Watson and Blake Frazier pre sented awards.

The Warriors completed th 2012 campaign with a 3-6 overal mark and finished 2-4 in th MACJC South Division.

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WEEK OF January 1, 2012

ECCC Lady Warrior Soccer Award Winners

These members of the 2011 East Central Community College women's soccer team received various honors at the annual Fall Sports Awards Banquet. Award winners and their respective high schools include (seated from left) Emily Lucy, Academic Award (3.971 GPA) and Kelsey Tadlock, Golden Boot Award and All-Region 23, both products of Newton County High School; and Lauren Shimfessel, hustle award, Newton County Academy; and (standing from left) Nikki Cumberland, team captain award and MACJC All-State, Wendy McCracken Burns, team captain award, and Erin Thornton, Warrior Award, all from Newton County High School. Tadlock led the MACJC North Division in scoring with 12 goals, two assists, and 26 total points. She finished sixth in scoring overall. She was the only freshman selected on the All-Region 23 team. ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin and soccer coach Kenneth Thompson presented awards.

EC photo

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF January 22, 2012

FROM COUGARS TO WARRIORS

ECCC photo

Four members of the Newton County High School boys' soccer team signed national letters-of-intent during a Jan. 5 ceremony in the school library to continue their careers in 2012 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Joining the Warriors are (seated from left) Jordan Walker, Russ Thompson, Will Thompson and Jesse Vaughn. Standing from left are signees' parents, Ricky and Leah Walker; Kenneth and Cindy Thompson; and Scott and Lisa Vaughn. Also standing is Sam Wilson, NCHS boys' soccer coach. Kenneth Thompson also serves as ECCC soccer coach. Each signee has been a six-year member of the Cougar soccer team and has 14 years of soccer experience. Each player also has a 4.0 grade point average in addition to other honors. Jordan was named All-District for four years. Russ is also a four-year All-District selection and received the team's Golden Boot Award in 2010-11. Will also earned All-District honors for four years. Russ and Will have also played Division 1 "Select" soccer for six years, one with the Mississippi Fire (the youth league for the Chicago Fire of the MLS) and the last five with MS Brilla Juniors (the youth league for MS Brillas of the PDL). Jesse's honors include 2009 NCHS Defensive MVP, 2009-10 NCHS MVP, 2010 Soccer Division 4-4A All-District Team, 2011 NCHS Defensive MVP and 2011 District Defensive MVP.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF January 22, 2012

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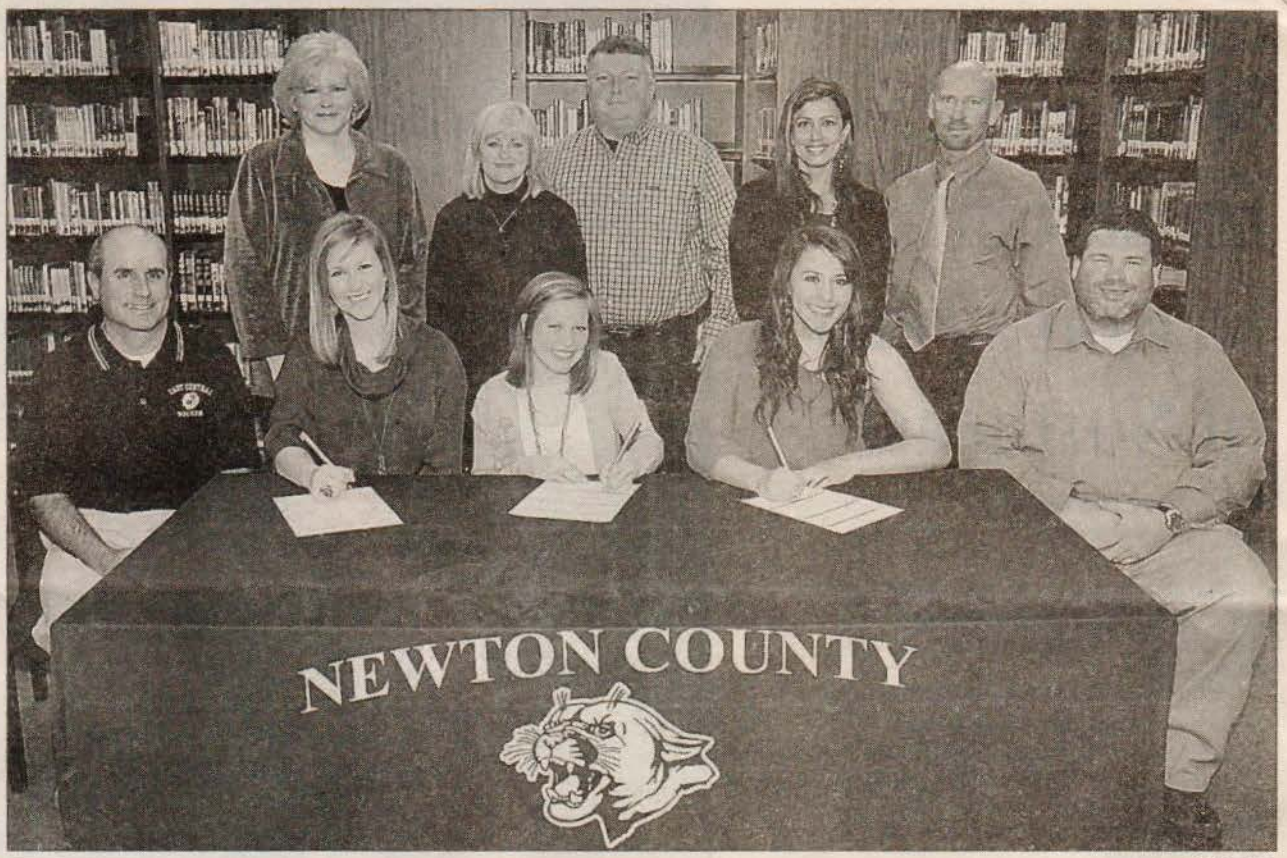

ECCC photo

Three members of the Newton County High School girls' soccer team signed national letters-of-intent during a ceremony Jan. 5 at the school library to continue their careers at East Central Community College in Decatur. Joining the Warriors in 2012 are (seated second from left) Kelsey Bounds, Heather Johnson and Jade Stockstill. Also seated are ECCC soccer coach Kenneth Thompson (left) and Chad Bounds, Newton County girls soccer coach. Standing from left are signees' parents, Jo Beth Bounds; Jacky and Pat Johnson; and Raquel Theriot and Tom Rose. Not pictured is Kelsey's father, Jeff Bounds. Kelsey has played soccer for six years and received most improved honors in 2009 and was selected All-Division 4-4A in 2011. Heather also has six years of soccer experience and was chosen on the All-Division 4-4A squad in 2010. Jade is a three-year soccer team member.

APPEARED IN:

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NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF February 12, 2012

ECCC hosts soccer tryouts other events

Tryouts for the 2012 East Central Community College men's soccer team will be held Friday, Feb. 24 on the Decatur campus, announced ECCC soccer coach Kenneth Thompson.

Activities begin with a 2 p.m. registration scheduled at the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

Thompson said prospective team members will need to provide their own equipment to participate in tryouts.

For more information, contact Coach Kenneth Thompson, 601-635-6370 or e-mail kthompson@eccc.edu.

Welding Class Instruction In Louisville

Instruction in MIG, TIG, stick, and gas welding is being offered at the Winston-Louisville Career and Technical Center.

Registration will be held on Monday, February 20, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. Classes will be held on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for seven consecutive weeks. Shane McDaniel will serve as instructor.

Cost of the class is $125.

To pre-register, contact Brenda Vanlandingham at the Center, Phone 662-773-6152.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF February 12, 2012

EC women add two more wins

from combined reports

The Lady Warriors of East Central Community College picked up two more wins on the hardwood last week to improve to 6-12.

The struggling Warriors lost both of their games to fall to 1-17.

This week, the EC teams were scheduled to host Southwest Mississippi on Monday and Hinds on Thursday.

EC wraps up the regular season with games at home with Copiah-Lincoln on February 20 and at Pearl River on February 23.

EC women	**76**
Jones	**72**

Free throws by Jainannah Matthew and Kelcia Bufkin in the game's final moments provided the Lady Warriors with the winning margin on February 6 at Decatur.

With the win, EC's women improved to 5-3 in the MACJC South Division and 5-12 overall.

Jones, also 5-3 in league play, is 11-7 overall.

Matthew and Bufkin were among five Lady Warriors who scored in double figures. Xzandra Dowd led EC with 18 points. Matthew had 17 followed by Ja'Monica Orton with 12, Bufkin with 11, and Kurlysha Bell with 10. Jakela Johnson scored eight points.

Alecia Autman led Jones with 19 points.

EC held a 36-34 advantage at halftime.

Jones	**92**
EC men	**62**

The Bobcats outscored the Warriors 55-30 in the second half to turn the February 6 league game at Decatur into a rout.

Hakeem Wesley, a 5-foot-11 freshman guard from Newton County High School, poured in 15 points to lead the Warriors, who dropped to 1-16 overall and 1-7 in league play.

EC also got 13 points from LaVadius Lyles.

EC trailed 37-32 at halftime.

Courtney Mack led Jones, 9-10 and 3-5, with 22 points.

EC women	**84**
Northwest	**70**

Sophomore guard Ja'Monica Orton poured in 17 points and grabbed 11 rebounds to lead the Lady Warriors to an easy 14-point victory over Northwest Mississippi Thursday night in a non-division matchup in Decatur.

EC improved to 6-12 overall with the win.

Xzandra Dowd and Jakela Johnson both scored 14, Jaiannah Matthew had 11, Kelcia Bufkin had eight, Kurlysha Bell tossed in seven, and Inessa Adams of Horn Lake, six. Dowd was the top rebounder with 15.

Erica Turner tallied 19 points to lead Northwest, 8-10.

EC held a 40-26 advantage at halftime.

Northwest	**72**
EC men	**62**

The visiting Rangers pulled away late from a tight contest to claim a 10-point decision.

Freshman Hakeem Wesley of Newton County pumped in 16 points to lead the Warriors, who dropped to 1-17. Also scoring were LaVadius Lyles and Bobby Wrench with eight each, and Glenn Thomas with six.

Jordan Husley had 13 points to lead Northwest, 9-9.

The score was tied 32-32 at the break.

ECCC's men's soccer tryouts set for Feb. 24

Tryouts for the 2012 East Central Community College men's soccer team will be held Friday, Feb. 24, on the Decatur campus, announced ECCC soccer coach Kenneth Thompson.

Activities begin with a 2 p.m. registration scheduled at the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

Thompson said prospective team members will need to provide their own equipment to participate in tryouts.

For more information, contact coach Kenneth Thompson at 601-635-6370 or e-mail kthompson@eccc.edu.

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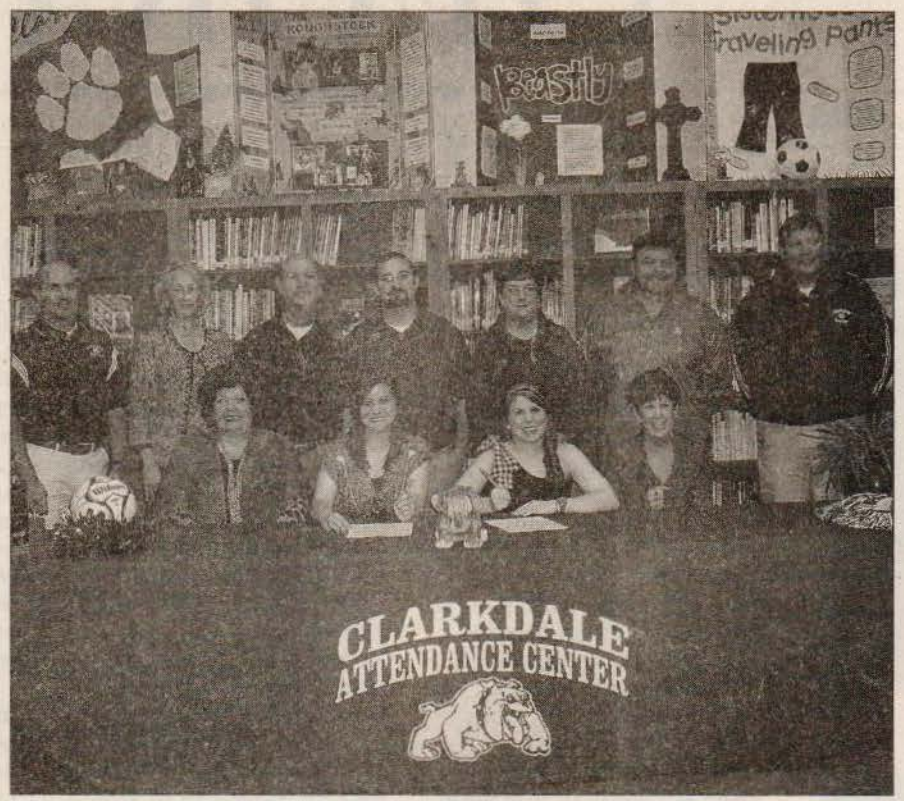
WEEK OF February 26, 2012

SPORTS

CONTINUING THEIR CAREERS



School photo

A pair of soccer standouts from Clarkdale's state finalist squad recently signed national letters of intent to continue their careers at East Central Community College in Decatur. Joining the Lady Soccer Warriors in 2012 are (seated second from left) Katie Weir and Sydney Dawkins. Joining the talented duo at the signing ceremony held at Clarkdale Attendance Center are family members (from left) Shalayne Weir (Katie's mother) and Tami Dawkins (Sydney's mother), and (standing from left) Kenneth Thompson, ECCC soccer coach; Clarkdale High School Principal Cheryl Thomas; Tim Weir (Katie's father), Jarred Weir (Katie's brother), a former Warrior Soccer player; Clarkdale head soccer coach Lea Castleberry; Gary Dawkins (Sydney's father), and Clarkdale assistant soccer coach Steve Dennis.

APPEARED IN:

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF March 4, 2012

THE MERIDIAN STAR
Thursday, March 8, 2012

ON THE PITCH

Submitted photo

Clarkdale soccer players Bailey McElroy, Kennedy Castleberry and Paige Gower recently signed with East Central Community College to continue their soccer careers. Standing from left to right: ECCC coach Kenneth Thompson, Cheryl Thomas, Charlie Castleberry, Courtney Castleberry and Clarkdale coach Lea Castleberry, Perry Gower, and Clarkdale coach Steve Dennis. Seated from left to right: Melissa Lott, Bailey McElroy, Kennedy Castleberry, Paige Gower and Patsy Gower.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WEEK OF March 25, 2012

MILLING INKS EC SCHOLARSHIP

ECCC photo

Claire Milling, a soccer standout at West Lauderdale, is shown signing a national letter-of-intent earlier this month to continue her career in 2012 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Milling is a 5-6 midfielder. Pictured with the new Warrior are her parents (standing from left) Mark and Laura Milling of Meridian and ECCC soccer coach Kenneth Thompson.

APPEARED IN:

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF May 13, 2012

ECCC Photo

Clark joins Lady Warriors

Miranda Clark (seated left), a soccer standout at Neshoba Central High School, is shown signing a national letter of intent to continue her career at East Central Community College in Decatur. Clark, a 5-7 midfielder, played six years for the Lady Rockets for head coach Nathan Sistrunk after participating in recreational soccer for eight years. Pictured with the new Lady Soccer Warrior are her mother, Jennifer Partridge (seated right); and ECCC soccer coach Kenneth Thompson.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF May 13, 2012

NEW WARRIORS

ECCC photo

New members of the East Central Community College men's soccer team were welcomed during a cookout and other activities held May 5 on the Decatur campus. Joining the Warriors in 2012 and their respective high schools are (seated from left) Ryan Artman, Grenada; Clint McGraw, Tupelo Christian Prep School; Kennon Craft, Clinton; and Will Thompson, Newton County; and (standing from left) Garrett Blevins, Harrison Central; Forest Muller, Hahnville (La.) High School; Jordan Walker, Jesse Vaughn and Russ Thompson, all of Newton County; and Taylor Potter, MS School for Math and Science and Delta State University transfer. New squad members not pictured are Jesus Onofre of Forest, David Williams of Newton County and Matt Taylor of Clarkdale. Kenneth Thompson serves as Warrior head coach.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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WEEK OF May 27, 2012

Lady Warrior Soccer signees

New members of the East Central Community College women's soccer team were welcomed during a cookout and other activities held earlier this month on the Decatur campus. Joining the Lady Soccer Warriors in 2012 and their respective high schools are (seated from left) Claire Milling of West Lauderdale, Morgan Luke and Heather Johnson, both of Newton County; and Destiney Tomasich of West Harrison High School; and (standing) Miranda Clark of Neshoba Central, Katie Weir and Baleigh McElroy, both of Clarkdale; and Mackenzie Britt of Florence. New squad members not pictured include Kennedy Castleberry, Sydney Dawkins, and Paige Gower, all of Clarkdale; and Kelsey Bounds and Jade Stockstill, both of Newton County. Kenneth Thompson serves as Lady Warrior head coach.

APPEARED IN:

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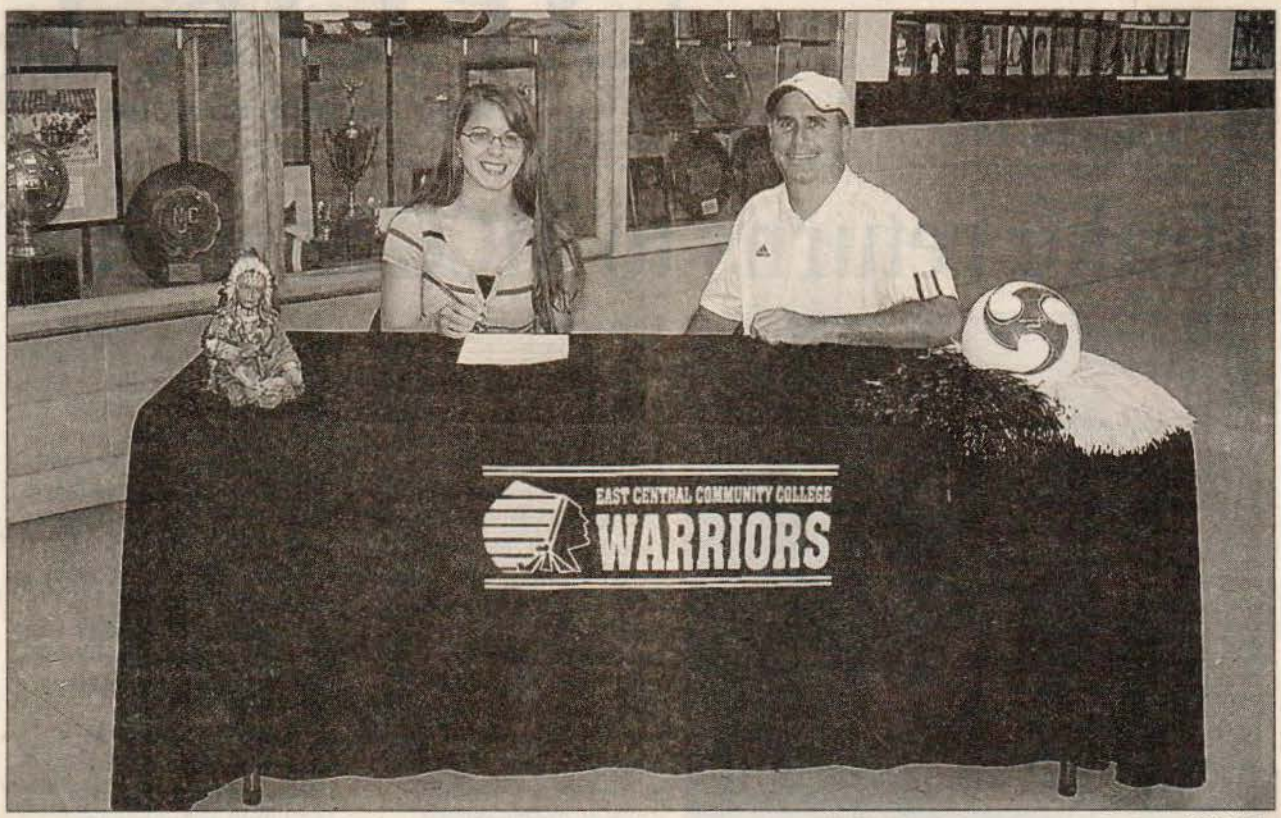
WEEK OF June 10, 2012

FIELD SIGNS WITH ECCC SOCCER



ECCC photo

Soccer standout Rachel Field (left) of Auburn, Maine, is shown signing a national letter-of-intent to continue her career at East Central Community College in Decatur. Field, a 5-foot-7 defender, is a 2011 graduate of Oxford Hills Christian Academy, where she excelled in soccer and volleyball. She received various honors in both sports, including best defensive player and All-Star. She is transferring to ECCC from Central Christian College in McPherson, Kansas, where she was a member of the volleyball team. The new Soccer Warrior is shown with ECCC soccer coach Kenneth Thompson during a recent scholarship signing ceremony held in ECCC's Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. Her parents are George Field and Robin Ellingwood.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF June 24, 2012

ECCC women soccer named Academic Team of the Year by NJCAA

from staff reports

The East Central Community College women's soccer team earned a prestiguous honor Monday, when the Warriors netted the 2011-12 NJCAA Women's Soccer Academic Team of the Year honor from the national headquarters.

The Warriors compiled a 3.48 team GPA to lead all women's soccer teams to earn the award.

Other area teams that earned an NJCAA All-Academic Team honor (GPA of at least 3.0) include the East Central baseball team (3.37), the East Mississippi Community College men's basketball team (3.0), the EMCC women's basketball team (3.16), the EMCC men's golf team (3.15), the ECCC men's golf team (3.03), the ECCC women's softball team (3.49), the EMCC softball team (3.31), the ECCC men's tennis team (3.50), the Meridian Community College men's tennis team (3.44), the ECCC women's tennis team (3.40) and the MCC women's

See NJCAA on page B2

NJCAA from page B1

tennis team (3.29).

Individuals that earned academic honors from EMCC were softball standouts Shelby Witt, who earned the NJCAA Award for Superior Academic Acheivement with a GPA between 3.80 and 3.99; and Clarkdale product Cory Roberson, who earned the NJCAA Award for Exemplary Academic Achievement with a GPA between 3.60 and 3.79.

Other Lions honored were two-time all-state golfer Weston Wallace, who also claimed the NJCAA Superior Academic Achievement award, while football standout Derrick Wilson and baseball star Spencer Wilson netted NJCAA Exemplary Academic Achievement awards.

ECCC had 11 student-athletes honored for their performance in the classroom, led by Newton County products Nikki Cumberland, Emily Lucy and Wendy McCracken, all members of the women's soccer team that earned Academic Team of the Year. Cumberland and McCracken both earned the Superior Academic Achievement Award, while Lucy received the Exemplary Academic Achievement honor.

Other Superior Academic Achievement winners were Kaetlen Brown (softball), Tate Rogers (football) and Kelsi Wilson (softball). Earning Exemplary Academic Achievement honors were Haelie Allen (softball), Evan Humphries (baseball), Neshoba Central's Eden McGee (softball), Miguel Medrano (men's soccer) and Enterprise's Haylee Roberts (softball).

MCC's Wilson earned Superior Academic Achievement

When Meridian Community College's list of academic student-athlete award winners were ran Friday, MCC softball standout Kelsey Wilson was mistakenly listed as Kelsey Smith.

Wilson was a Superior Academic Achievement winner for the Eagles with a 3.95 GPA.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF July 8, 2012

JOINING THE WARRIORS

ECCC photo

Soccer standout Ronnie Tisdale (left) is shown signing a national letter-of-intent to continue his career at East Central Community College in Decatur. Tisdale, a 5-foot-8, 175-pound midfielder/defender, is a transfer from Pearl River Community College. He is a 2011 graduate of Pascagoula High School, where he was a three-year letterman The new Warrior is pictured with ECCC soccer head Kenneth Thompson.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF July 8, 2012

SIGNING WITH ECCC

ECCC photo

Hanah Tindall (seated center) is shown signing a national letter-of-intent to play soccer at East Central Community College in Decatur. Tindall, a 5-foot-5 midfielder, is a 2012 graduate of Newton County Academy. Pictured with the new Warrior are (standing from left) her parents, Todd and Sherrol Tindall of Newton, and ECCC soccer coach Kenneth Thompson.

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WEEK OF July 22, 2012

East Central Community College's Lady Warrior soccer program has once again been recognized for academic excellence by the NJCAA. The 2011 squad was named NJCAA Women's Soccer Academic Team of the Year by compiling an overall 3.48 grade point average. The national recognition represents the third such honor for the ECCC women's soccer program in its brief seven-year history. Team members include (first row, from left) Carrie Rushing, Wendy McCracken Burns, T'Molia Curry-Jordan, Lauren Shimfessel, Lynea Moreland, Baleigh Germany, and Claire Tadlock. (Second row) are Erin Thornton, Jalesia Howell-el, Nikki Cumberland, Emily Lucy, Cayla Engle, Holly Doyle, Kelsey Tadlock, Kristen Nettles, and Haley Covert. (Back row) are managers Ryan Moore, Kyle Gentry, Kenneth Smith, and Tiana Grover and head coach Kenneth Thompson.

EC photo

NJCAA women's soccer Academic Team of the Year

Hampton inks with JSU

Former East Central Community College baseball standout Fred Hampton of Louisville has signed a national letter of intent to continue his career at Jackson State University.

Hampton, a 5-foot-10, 200-pound outfielder, was a second team MACJC All-State selection and received the Diamond Warriors' team captain award following the 2012 campaign.

He was also named to the MACJC Academic All-State Team.

Hampton posted a .301 batting average with three home runs, 10 doubles, and 32 RBIs in helping lead the Diamond Warriors to the 2012 state playoffs en route to a 25-23 record.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF August 19, 2012

East Central soccer teams set high expectations for 2012

from school reports

DECATUR — With the start of soccer season just a few days away, East Central Community College coach Kenneth Thompson said he is "cautiously optimistic" that the 2012 campaign will be a successful one for both the men and women.

The Warriors begin season action Thursday by hosting Wallace State at 5 p.m. on the Decatur campus. Both EC squads will battle Pearl River Community College on Saturday. Game times are 3 and 5 p.m. on the EC pitch.

"We have set high expectations of ourselves and with both groups," said Thompson, who has led the Warriors since 1999 and started the women's program in 2005. "The men expect to compete strongly in the MACJC North Division and the women look to do the same…but the women will have to work a little bit harder as they don't have as deep a team as the men."

Thompson said part of his optimism is the result of a successful recruiting season. Due to recent changes in recruiting guidelines, there are no more district lines and players can be recruited from throughput the state.

"Recruiting went well this year," said Thompson. "A lot of hours were spent evaluating talent for both squads, and I feel that we were able to acquire some really good players to represent us in 2012."

Thompson said the men's team has "quality depth" for the first time in a long time.

Thompson

"We may be able to go close to two-deep in all positions and not have any really noticeable drop off," he added.

On the women's side, Thompson said he should be able to field a team "that will compete at a much higher level this year." He noted several freshmen played in state championship matches last year for their high schools in their respective divisions.

Thompson said the top men's team returnees include 2011 MACJC All-State keeper Jared Canoy and midfielder McGee Ledbetter.

"Jared looks to have another banner year between the sticks," said Thompson.

McGee was the leading scorer in 2011 and "looks to add to his total this year."

The ECCC women return All-Region 23 selection Kelsey Tadlock of Newton County.

"Kelsey was the leading scorer in the MACJC North Division last season and finished third in the state. She was the only freshman in the state selected to the All-Region 23 Team."

Thompson had praise for several freshmen members of both squads.

"The men have numerous players with outstanding soccer credentials joining the squad this year," he stated. He mentioned twins Will and Russ Thompson, both forwards, and Jesse Vaughn and Jordan Walker, both defenders. "All of these players are from Newton County and have extensive soccer playing careers."

Other top newcomers include defender Forest Muller, forward Clint McGraw and midfielder Taylor Potter.

"Each of these players will be asked to contribute heavily to the team this season," said Thompson.

Thompson noted the women "have several outstanding players" joining the squad this year, including MAC All-State keeper Alana Turner, and defender Paige Gower of State Class 1-2-3A runner-up Clarkdale. Another incoming freshman expected to "contribute heavily" is midfielder Morgan Luke of Newton County.

Thompson said the men's team can best be described as a "technically sound" team "with an upbeat personality." He added the Warriors "have also bonded quickly, which is important for success on the field."

"Committed to work for their goals" best describes the women's squad, said Thompson. "The women have bonded quickly as well."

Fans attending this year matches will be treated "to an attractive attacking style of soccer," Thompson said.

"Matches should be heavily contested from start to finish with a never-say-die attitude," he stated. "The women will present a more methodical style of soccer that will allow them to conserve energy for the final push in matches when many games are won."

In addition to being competitive on the pitch, Thompson expects both teams to do well academically, as is the trait of many of his teams. The 2011 women's team was named NJCAA Women's Soccer Academic Team of the Year, the third such honor for the program in its seven-year history.

"This year's group has no reason to fall off the pace set by former teams, as both teams are loaded with not only good soccer players but outstanding students as well," Thompson said.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WEEK OF August 26, 2012

EC soccer drops home opener

East Central Community College's Soccer Warriors fell 2-0 to visiting Wallace State Community College of Hanceville, Ala., in the squad's 2012 season opener Thursday, Aug. 23 on the Decatur campus.

After a scoreless first half, the visiting Lions scored on goals from Rafael Fagiani in the 59th minute followed by a score from Anthony Agyin-Birikorang in the 63rd minute.

Members of the 2012 East Central Community College men's soccer team and their respective high schools include (first row, from left) defender Bryor Shorter (1), Florence; forwards Will Thompson (2) and Russ Thompson (3) and defender Jesse Vaughn (4), all of Newton County; forward/midfielder McGee Ledbetter (5), Heritage Academy, Columbus; defender Jose Aju (6), Eupora; midfielders/defenders Ronnie Tisdale (7) of Pascagoula and Zack Killion (8) of South Oldham, Crestwood, KY; and defender Jordan Walker (9), Newton County; (second row, from left) midfielder Ryne Riebock (10), Florence; midfielder Kennon Craft (12), Clinton; defender Tyravian Miller (13), Moss Point; forwards Terrell Forte (14) of Newton County and DeShawn Kitchens (15) of Florence; midfielder Clay Aikens (16), McLaurin; defender Forest Muller (17), Hahnville (La.); midfielder/defender Garrett Blevins (18), Harrison Central; defender Zach McGarr (20), Leake Academy; and midfielder Drew Norman (21), Florence; and (third row, from left) managers Alexander Lee of Newton County and Franck Alexandre of Boynton Beach (Fla.) Community; defender Taylor Potter (22), MS School for Math and Science, Columbus; forward Clint McGraw (23), Tupelo Christian; keepers Jared Canoy of West Harrison and Matt Taylor of Clarkdale; defender Ryan Artman (24), Grenada; keeper midfielder Jacob Norman (25), Gulfport; manager Kelsey Stewart, Morton; and head coach Kenneth Thompson.

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WEEK OF September 9, 2012

MCC, East Central split Friday matches

from school reports

The Meridian Community College soccer team traveled to East Central Community College on Friday afternoon for a pair of matches and the Eagles were able to return home with a road split against the Warriors. The MCC women defeated East Central 8-0, while the MCC men dropped a 4-2 decision.

MCC returns to action on Wednesday on the road at Northwest Community College. The women are scheduled to play at 2 p.m. and the men play at 4 p.m.

Sophomore striker Pam Gean notched a hat trick in the impressive victory against the ECCC women. Gean scored two of her goals in the match on penalty kicks and her third goal of the match came in the opening minutes of the second half.

Katelynn Zuk added a goal in the first half and Kristen Morris notched a goal in the second half of action. Lacie Hamker and Ashlyn Pope each added a goal in the win. MCC improved to 2-1 for the 2012 season and both victories have been shutouts.

The Warriors carried a 2-0 lead into the second half of the men's match and held off a late rally by MCC to take the two-goal victory. Jacob Livingston scored the first goal of the match for the Eagles in the opening ten minutes of the second half to make the score 2-1. Kellen Roberts tied the game at 2-2 with a goal with about 14:07 left in the game, but ECCC was able to notch a pair of goals in the final minutes to secure the home win over MCC.

The Eagles dropped its overall record to 2-1.

MCC golf set to open fall season

The Meridian Community College golf team is set to build of its success of the 2011-2012 by opening the fall portion of its schedule this week by participating in the Wallace State Fall Invitational in Cullman, Ala. The tournament begins Monday as the Eagles will play 36 holes to open the event and the tournament concludes on Tuesday as MCC will play 18 holes as a team.

"We are looking forward to competing at Wallace State," said MCC head golf coach Ronnie Key. " We have a young, but talented team. After losing four starters from last year's record setting team, we are in a bit of a rebuilding mode, but I feel we have the talent to make some noise on a national level."

MCC finished the 2012 spring season by finishing third in the country, but the Eagles are only returning a pair of players from the previous season. T.J. Morgan and Gafford White will be in the starting lineup for the Eagles to open the season. Morgan played a major role in the third place finish in the NJCAA Division I National Tournament and was named a 2012 All-American Honorable Mention.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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WEEK OF September 9, 2012

Soccer Warriors defeat Gulf Coast

From school reports

The East Central Community College men's soccer team captured its first victory of the 2012 season by defeating Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College by a 3-2 margin last Wednesday night on the Perkinston campus.

"We played well and just took it to them."

Kenneth Thompson

Soccer coach Kenneth Thompson was obviously pleased with his team's performance in capturing the program's second win against the Bulldogs.

"We played well and just took it to them," said Thompson of the Warriors who improved to 1-2 on the young campaign. "It was a great game for the spectators."

Scoring for ECCC were Taylor Potter of Bentonia, Ryne Riebock of Florence and McGee Ledbetter of Columbus. Potter, a freshman defender, is a product of the Mississippi School for Math and Science. Riebock is a sophomore midfielder and product of Florence High School. Ledbetter is a sophomore forward/midfielder from Heritage Academy.

Credited with scoring assists were freshman forward Will Thompson of Newton County and freshman midfielder Kennon Craft of Clinton.

The Lady Soccer Warriors were not as fortunate and were blanked 4-0. The squad is winless after two contests.

"Our girls gave a great effort but were simply outmatched," said Thompson.

Members of the 2012 East Central Community College men's soccer team include (first row, from left) defender Bryor Shorter (1), Florence; forwards Will Thompson (2) and Russ Thompson (3) and defender Jesse Vaughn (4), all of Newton County; forward/midfielder McGee Ledbetter (5), Heritage Academy, Columbus; defender Jose Aju (6), Eupora; midfielders/defenders Ronnie Tisdale (7) of Pascagoula and Zack Killion (8) of South Oldham, Crestwood, KY; and defender Jordan Walker (9), Newton County; (second row, from left) midfielder Ryne Riebock (10), Florence; midfielder Kennon Craft (12), Clinton; defender Tyravian Miller (13), Moss Point; forwards Terrell Forte (14) of Newton County and DeShawn Kitchens (15) of Florence; midfielder Clay Aikens (16), McLaurin; defender Forest Muller (17), Hahnville (La.); midfielder/defender Garrett Blevins (18), Harrison Central; defender Zach McGarr (20), Leake Academy; and midfielder Drew Norman (21), Florence; and (third row, from left) managers Alexander Lee of Newton County and Franck Alexandre of Boynton Beach (Fla.) Community; defender Taylor Potter (22), MS School for Math and Science, Columbus; forward Clint McGraw (23), Tupelo Christian; keepers Jared Canoy of West Harrison and Matt Taylor of Clarkdale; defender Ryan Artman (24), Grenada; keeper midfielder Jacob Norman (25), Gulfport; and head coach Kenneth Thompson.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF September 23, 2012

EC soccer squads beat Northwest

From school reports

East Central Community College's soccer squads registered impressive victories over Northwest Mississippi Community College Friday, Sept. 21, on the Decatur campus.

The Lady Soccer Warriors and Warriors each posted 1-0 shut outs in the key MACJC North Division matchups.

Kelsey Tadlock made the game-winning goal for the EC women who improved to 2-6 overall and 1-3 in league play. Tadlock is a sophomore forward from Newton County High School. Paige Gower was credited with an assist. Gower is a freshman defender from Clarkdale.

Russ Thompson provided the game-winning goal for the Soccer Warriors, whose record now stands at 4-3-2 overall and 2-1-1 in the division. Thompson is a freshman forward from Newton County. Clint McGraw was credited with an assist. McGraw is a freshman forward from Tupelo Christian.

ECCC soccer squads returned to action Tuesday in non-division battles with Southwest Mississippi Community College. Game times were set for 2 and 4 p.m. on the Summit campus.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors host Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Friday, Sept. 28, beginning at 2 p.m. on the EC pitch.

Kenneth Thompson serves as ECCC soccer coach.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF October 7, 2012

ECCC soccer squads split recent action on the pitch

East Central Community College's soccer squads dropped decisions to Holmes Community College Friday, Oct. 5 and fell to Jones County Junior College squads Sunday, Oct 7.

In the matchups with Holmes, the Soccer Warriors were edged 2-1 in overtime and the Lady Warriors also fell by a 2-1 margin in MACJC North Division competition held in Ridgeland.

Sophomore forward/midfielder McGee Ledbetter of Columbus scored the Warriors' lone goal. Ledbetter is a product of Heritage Academy. Freshman forward Clint McGraw of Tupelo Christian was credited with a scoring assist.

Holmes scored on penalty kicks from Jonathan Brown.

Freshman midfielder McKenzie Britt of Florence scored for the Lady Warriors and received a scoring assist from sophomore forward Kelsey Tadlock of Newton County.

Against JCJC, the Warriors were clipped by a 2-1 margin and the Lady Warriors were blanked 7-0. Ledbetter scored for EC. McGraw was credited with a scoring assist.

The Soccer Warriors are now 7-5-3 overall and 2-2-1 in league play. EC's women are 2-12 and 1-4.

Next up are division battles at Itawamba Community College scheduled Wednesday, Oct. 10. Game times are 5 and 7 p.m. in Tupelo.

The home finale is set for Friday, Oct. 12 with Hinds Community College. Game times are 2 and 4 p.m. on the EC pitch.

APPEARED IN:

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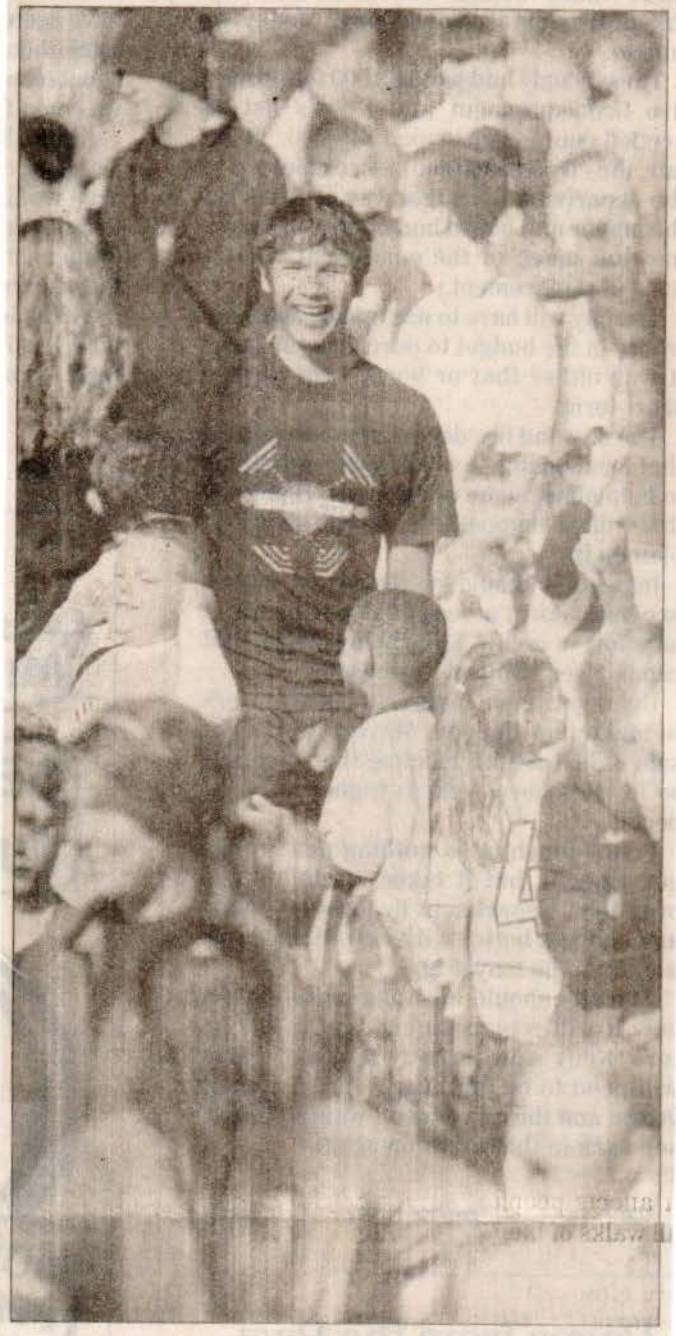
WEEK OF October 7, 2012

Serious Soccer finale



Forest Muller, an East Central Community College soccer player and Serious Soccer coach, stands with his team at the soccer league's finale Monday night in Decatur. The soccer program is facilitated by Clarke-Venable Baptist Church. Children ages 4-12 practice and compete during the late summer season in an effort to improve soccer skills. Devotions and prayer time take place at halftime each game.

Luke Horton/The Appeal

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF October 4, 2012

EC men's soccer team ties MCC in double OT

Another soccer match ended in a tie for the East Central Community College Warriors who battled Meridian Community College to a scoreless tie in two overtimes Wednesday night on the MCC campus.

The Soccer Warriors are now 7-3-3 overall and remain 2-1-1 in the MACJC North Division following the non-division matchup.

In women's action, the Lady Warriors were blanked 2-0 and fell to 2-9 overall. The EC women are 2-1-1 in league play.

Both squads return to division action Friday, Oct. 5 against Holmes Community College. Game times are 2 and 4 p.m. on the Ridgeland campus. The Bulldogs lead the division at 3-1-1. Their only division loss was a 1-0 setback to East Central.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors travel to Jones County Junior College Sunday, Oct. 7 in matches rescheduled from August 28 due to inclement weather. Game times are set for 5 and 7 p.m. on the Ellisville campus.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WEEK OF October 21, 2012

EC soccer wraps up successful season

From school reports

The most successful season in the program's history came to an end Saturday, Oct. 20, for the East Central Community College men's soccer team which fell 2-0 to host Pearl River Community College in semi-final action of the MACJC State Soccer Tournament held on the Poplarville campus.

The Soccer Warriors, who qualified for post-season play by sharing the MACJC North Division title with Holmes Community College at 5-2-1, completed the 2012 campaign with a 10-6-3 record and a third place finish in the MACJC under head coach Kenneth Thompson. Thompson was obviously pleased with the Soccer Warriors' success and their first appearance in the state tournament.

"The Warriors lived up to their namesake by playing the way that they had all season long, from start to finish," said Thompson, who started the Soccer Warrior program in 1999. "They have been a great example of what a Warrior truly is, from their determined play to great sportsmanship to outstanding team support of each player and every player. They are to be commended for these qualities as well as their third place in the MACJC."

Holmes edged Jones County 1-0 in the other men's semi-final game.

In the women's bracket, Pearl River defeated Hinds 5-0 and Jones County blanked Itawamba 1-0 in double overtime.

Pearl River squads were victorious in the championship finals held Sunday, Oct. 21. The Lady Wildcats defeated Jones County 2-0 and the Wildcats held on for a 4-2 decision over Holmes.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF December 9, 2012

CHAMPIONS GET THEIR CROWN

ECCC Photo

Members of the East Central Community College men's soccer team display a championship banner presented during halftime activities of the Lady Warrior basketball game with East Mississippi Community College Thursday, December 6, 2012, in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus. The banner will soon hang with the numerous other championship banners displayed in Brackeen-Wood. ECCC President Dr. Billy W. Stewart (also shown in photo) made the presentation in recognition of the squad's historic season. The Soccer Warriors captured a share of the MACJC North Division with a 5-2-1 record and earned a first-ever berth in the state playoffs en route to an overall 10-5-3 mark.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF December 23, 2012

AWARD WINNERS

ECCC photo

These members of the 2012 East Central Community College women's soccer team received honors at the annual Fall Sports Banquet held Dec. 5 in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus. Award winners and their respective high schools include (from left) Kelsey Tadlock of Newton County, All-Region 23, Team Co-Captain, Academic and Golden Boot awards; Paige Gower of Clarkdale, honorable mention MACJC All-State and Defense Award; Kennedy Castleberry of Clarkdale, Hustle Award; Alana Turner of Florence, MACJC All-State and Team Most Valuable Player and Team Co-Captain awards; and Erin Thornton of Newton County, honorable mention MACJC All-State and Warrior Award. ECCC President Dr. Billy W. Stewart and soccer coach Kenneth Thompson presented awards.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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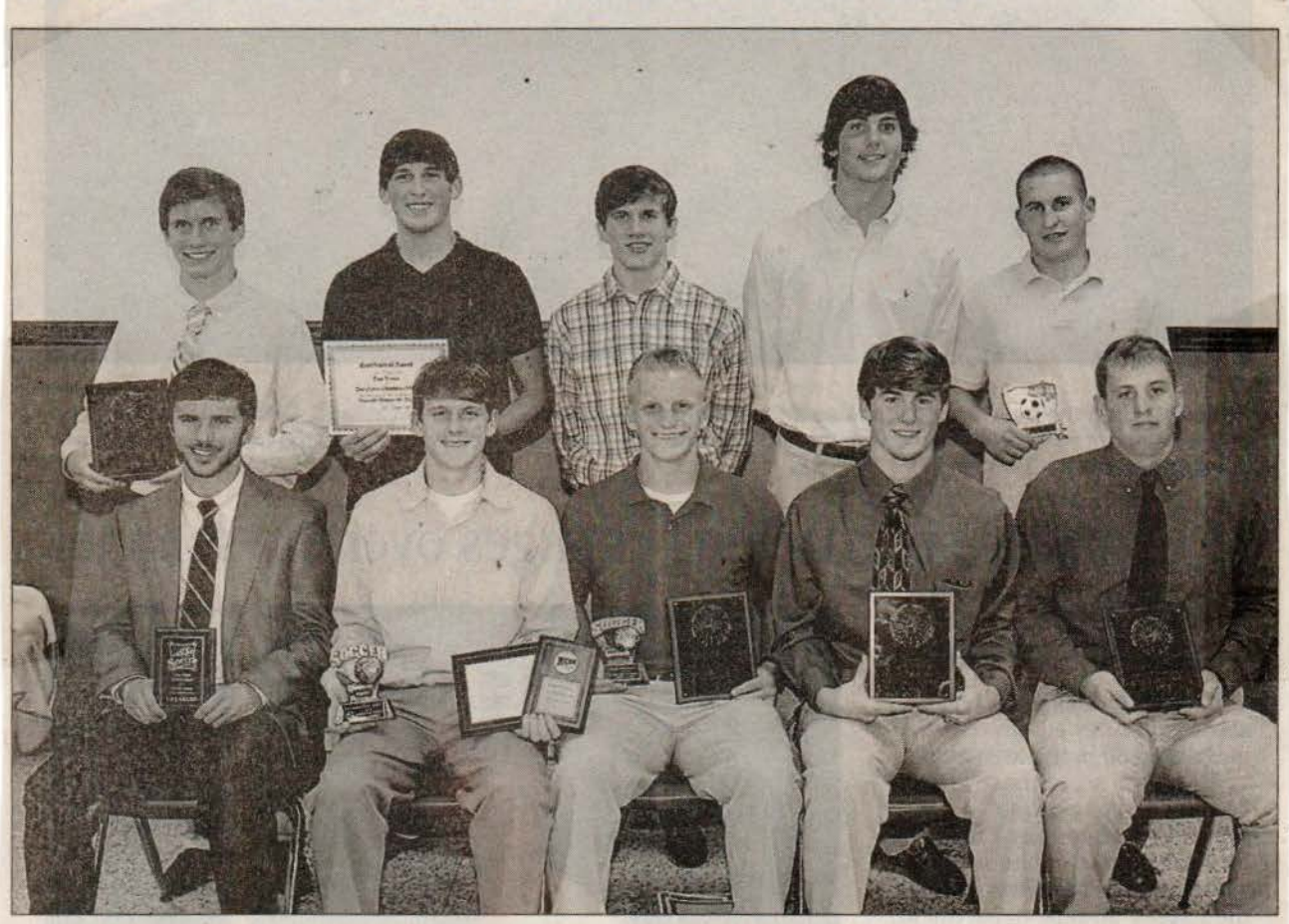
WEEK OF December 23, 2012

HONORED FOR THEIR PLAY



ECCC photo

Above are recipients of men's soccer team awards presented at the annual Fall Sports Banquet held Dec. 5 in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus. Award winners and their respective high schools include (seated from left) Zack Killion of South Oldham HS in Crestwood, Kentucky, Academic Award; McGee Ledbetter of Heritage Academy in Columbus, All-Region 23, Team Co-Captain and Golden Boot awards; Jesse Vaughn of Newton County, Defense Award; Taylor Potter of Bentonia, Mississippi School for Math and Science, MACJC All-State and Hustle Award; and Jared Canoy of West Harrison, MACJC All-State, Team Most Valuable Player and Team Co-Captain awards; (standing from left) Russ Thompson of Newton County, MACJC All-State; Drew Norman of Florence and Will Thompson and Jordan Walker, both of Newton County, honorable mention MACJC All-State; and Bryor Shorter of Florence, Warrior Award. The 2012 squad completed the program's best season by winning a share of the MACJC North Division title with a 5-2-1 record and earning a first-ever berth in the state playoffs en route to a 10-5-3 mark. ECCC President Dr. Billy W. Stewart and soccer coach Kenneth Thompson presented awards.

APPEARED IN:

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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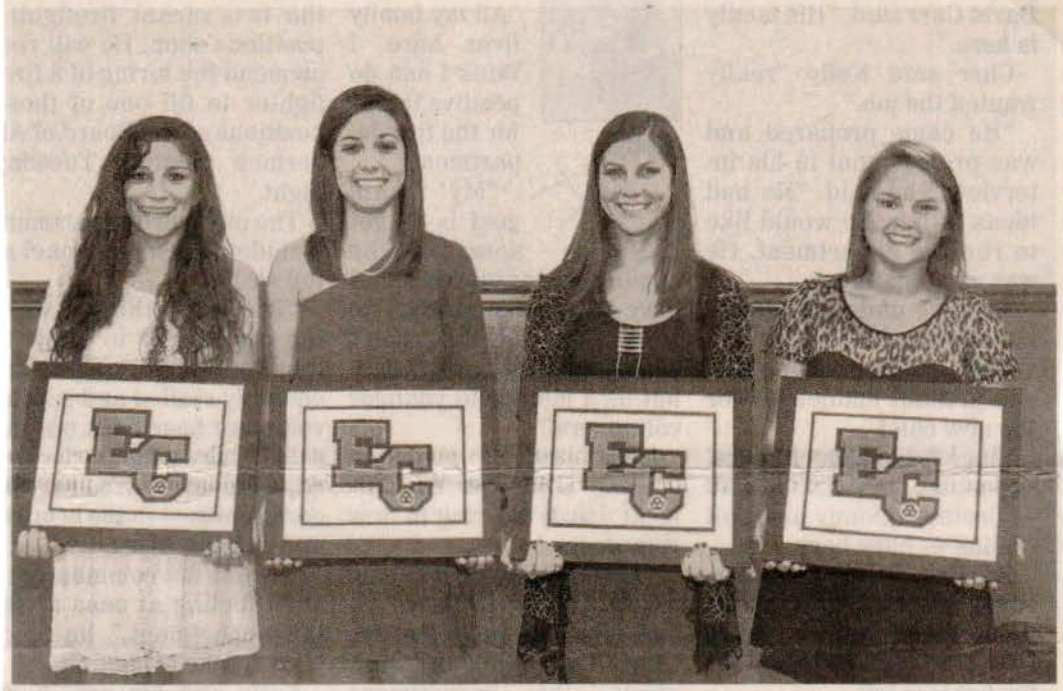
WEEK OF December 30, 2012

EC Lady Soccer letter winners



These sophomore members of the 2012 East Central Community College women's soccer team are shown displaying letters received at the annual Fall Sports Awards Banquet held recently 5 in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus. Recipients of the special recognition and their respective high schools include (from left) Lynea Moreland, Erin Thornton and Kelsey Tadlock, all of Newton County; and Haley Covert, West Lauderdale. Not pictured is Rachel Field, Oxford Hills Christian Academy, Auburn, Maine. Coach Kenneth Thompson presented letters.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF January 22, 2012

Union softball standouts sign with ECCC

Union High School softball standouts, seated, third from left, Casey Cherry, Hayley Stephens and Tori Holsen are shown signing national letters of intent to continue their athletic careers in 2012-13 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Cherry is an outfielder; Stephens, a catcher; and Holsen is a corner infielder. They helped lead Union to the 2010 State 2-A Slow Pitch Softball Championship. Stephens also received All-Division honors in Fast-Pitch from 2009-10. Holsen earned All-Division honors in Slow-Pitch in 2010 and in Fast-Pitch in 2009. She also received most improved honors in Slow-Pitch in 2009. Also seated (from left) are ECCC head softball coach Scott Hill and assistant Kristin Chaney, and Union softball coaches Todd Viverette and Dustin Hamrick. Standing from left are signees' parents, Benny and Pattie Cherry; Heather and Richard Stephens, and Bethany Dolan; Daryl Holsen and Cassandra and Tim Gibbs. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF January 22, 2012

LA's Chipley signs ECCC scholarship

Leake Academy softball standout Kristen Chipley, seated center, is shown signing a national letter of intent to continue her athletic career in 2012-13 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Chipley, an outfielder, helped lead the Lady Rebels to two consecutive State AA titles and a pair of undefeated seasons. She is also a recipient of best defensive and best offensive player awards. Also seated, from left, are ECCC assistant softball coach Kristin Chaney and head coach Scott Hill. Standing from left are Kristen's parents, Felicia and Wade Chipley, and Leake Academy softball coach Doug Jones. *EC Photo*

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF January 29, 2012

ECCC Softball Signees

Eight high school softball standouts signed national letters of intent with East Central Community College during a scholarship signing ceremony held January 17 on the Decatur campus. Joining the Lady Diamond Warriors in 2012-13 are (seated from left) shortstop Amber McBroom of Brandon High School, outfielder Morgan Porter and catcher/corner infielder Malauri Robinson, both of Enterprise; outfielder Casey Cherry, catcher Hayley Stephens, and corner infielder Tori Holsen, all of Union; shortstop Kaylin Hopkins of Louisville, and outfielder Kristen Chipley of Leake Academy. Standing from left are ECCC softball coaches Kristin Chaney (assistant) and Scott Hill (head coach).

EC photo

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL 2x

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF February 19, 2012

ECCC Lady Diamond Warriors rally to beat Lamar State

From press reports

A bases-loaded walk in the bottom of the sixth inning provided the winning margin for East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball team in a 4-3 victory over Lamar State College Friday afternoon in the second of two contests held in Decatur.

The Lady Diamond Warriors trailed 3-1 in the sixth before rallying to take the lead for good in the non-division matchup that featured several lead changes.

EC freshman hurler Mary Sanders shut down the Lamar State offense in the top of the seventh and the Lady Diamond Warriors held on for the victory and improved to 6-2 on the young season under head coach Scott Hill and assistant Kristin Chaney.

Kelsi Watson of Smithville and A.J. Peeler of Neshoba Central led the EC offense with a double and single each. Brittany Pounders of Southeast Lauderdale was also credited with a double, and singles were recorded by Kaetlen Brown of Edgewater (Ala.) Academy, Dakota Vowell of Neshoba Central, Lajoya Griffin of Philadelphia and Haelie Allen of Leake Academy.

Sanders went the distance on the mound, allowing three runs on 11 hits. She fanned a batter and walked one. Sanders is a product of Adams Christian Academy.

EC lost the opener by a 10-2 margin. Scoring information was not available.

Next up for the Lady Diamond Warriors is a pair of contests with longtime rival East Mississippi Community College Wednesday, Feb. 22. Game times are 3 and 5 p.m. on the Decatur campus.

East Central is scheduled to participate in the Northeast Mississippi Community College Invitational scheduled Feb. 24-25 in Booneville.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF February 19, 2012

ECCC softball wins five of

from school reports

East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball squad began the 2012 season by capturing three of four contests in non-division action over the February 10-11 weekend in Andalusia, Ala.

The defending MACJC State Champions dropped the season opener on February 10 by an 8-7 margin to host L.B. Wallace Community College, then reeled off victories over Southern Union (4-3), Wallace State (13-10), and Jeff Davis (2-1) in the L.B. Wallace Tournament.

EC swept East Mississippi on the diamond last week to improve to 5-1.

The Lady Diamond Warriors seemed to be in control early against L. B. Wallace after jumping out to a 4-0 first-inning lead.

L.B. Wallace cut the lead in half after two innings, but EC responded with two more runs in the fourth for a 6-2 advantage. However, L.B. Wallace rallied for three runs in the fourth and three in the fifth for an 8-6 lead. EC managed just one run in the seventh and L.B. Wallace held on for the slim victory.

Haylee Roberts and Brittany Pounders collected three hits each to lead the EC offense. Roberts hit a homer and two singles and Pounders blasted two doubles and a single.

Other sluggers included Lajoya Griffin with a double and a single, Dakota Vowell and Kaetlen Brown with two singles, and Marlee Massey, Kelsi Watson, and Haelie Allen with one single apiece.

Brown took the loss in the circle, allowing eight runs on 11 hits through six innings.

EC responded to the loss by edging Southern Union later on February 10.

Roberts again led the offense with a homer and single.

Massey had two singles, Griffin contributed a double, and singles each were recorded by Vowell and A.J. Peeler.

Tenna Patterson was the winning pitcher as she allowed three runs on six hits in the seven-inning battle.

In February 11 contests, EC outlasted Wallace State and held on to defeat Jeff Davis.

The Lady Warriors jumped out to 2-0 first-inning lead against Wallace State, thanks to Pounders' two-run blast.

EC found itself trailing 7-6 after four innings, but rallied to tie the contest at 7-7 in the fifth, then added three runs in the sixth and three in the seventh to post the victory.

Brown led the offense with two doubles, a single, and three RBI.

Pounders also singled in addition to her home run. Roberts had a double and single, Peeler collected two doubles, and singles each were registered by Massey, Watson, Griffin, and Allen.

Mary Sanders picked up the win. She allowed eight earned runs on 14 hits.

In the 2-1 win over Jeff

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

(Continued from previous page)

February 19, 2012

first six games

Davis, Roberts led the offense with a double and single. Massey also doubled. Vowell, Peeler, and Allen contributed singles each.

Patterson was the winning pitcher. She allowed one run on four hits. She also fanned four batters and walked four.

EC 11-9
East Mississippi 3-0

EC improved to 5-1 on the young season following a doubleheader sweep of non-division rival East Mississippi Community College last Wednesday at Scooba.

Kelsi Watson and Haelie Allen collected three singles each to lead the EC offense in the first game. Watson was also credited with three RBI.

Other hitters were Brittany Pounders with a double and a single, Lajoya Griffin with two singles, and Marlee Massey, Haylee Roberts, and Kaetlen Brown of Edgewood (Ala.) Academy with a single apiece.

Tenna Patterson picked up the win, allowing two earned runs on five hits in the seven-inning matchup. She fanned six batters and walked two. Patterson is a product of Lexington (Ala.) High School.

In the second contest, Roberts and A.J. Peeler led the offense with three hits each. Roberts was credited with two doubles and single and Peeler also had a double and had two singles. Roberts was also the top run producer with three RBI.

Other sluggers were Massey and Allen with two singles each, Brown with a double, and Watson, Pounders, and Dakota Vowell with a single each.

Brown allowed just four hits in the six-inning battle to notch the victory. She fanned two batters.

ECCC hosts East Mississippi today with doubleheader action getting under way at 1 p.m. in Decatur.

The Lady Diamond Warriors are led by head coach Scott Hill and assistant Kristin Chaney.

WEEK OF February 26, 2012

ECCC softball squad

These student-athletes from Neshoba County are freshman members of the 2012 East Central Community College fast-pitch softball squad. From left are infielder Lajoya Griffin, a product of Philadelphia High School; and infielder Eden McGee, catcher/infielder Dakota Vowell and outfielders Marlee Massey and A.J. Peeler, all products of Neshoba Central High School. The ECCC Lady Diamond Warriors are the defending MACJC State Champions. Scott Hill serves as head coach and Kristin Chaney is his assistant. East Central Community College is located in Decatur. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF February 26, 2012

ECCC softball team splits decisions at Holmes

After falling 2-0 in the opener, East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball team responded with a 16-0 blowout in the nightcap to split a doubleheader with Holmes Community College Tuesday in Goodman.

The Lady Diamond Warriors, now 12-5 under head coach Scott Hill and assistant Kristin Chaney, out-hit the home standing Lady Bulldogs by a 6-5 margin in the first contest but could not muster a run. Holmes scored its runs in the second and third innings to claim the non-division victory.

Hitters in the opener were Kelsi Watson of Smithville, Haylee Roberts of Enterprise, Brittany Pounders of Southeast Lauderdale, Lajoya Griffin of Philadelphia and Neshoba Central products Marlee Massey and A.J. Peeler, singles each.

Tenna Patterson took the loss on the mound. Patterson allowed just one earned run on five hits through six innings. She also fanned nine batters.

EC's offense came alive in the second contest, as the Lady Diamond Warriors collected 11 hits in cruising to the easy victory, which was called after five innings.

A two-run homer by Roberts in the first inning began the scoring onslaught for EC, which added a run in the second inning and put the contest out of reach with six runs in the third inning and seven in the fifth.

Roberts, who also singled, led EC with four RBIs.

Griffin led the team in hits with two doubles and a single. She also knocked in three runs.

Peeler contributed a double and a single and recorded two RBIs.

Other hitters were Pounders, Dakota Vowell of Neshoba Central and Haelie Allen of Leake Academy, doubles each; and Watson, single. Allen also had three RBIs. Pounders, Vowell and Watson each knocked in a run.

Kaetlen Brown of Deatsville, Ala., hurled a three-hitter in registering the shutout victory. Brown fanned two batters and walked one. She is a product of Edgewood (Ala.) Academy.

The Lady Diamond Warriors travel to Baton Rouge Community College Wednesday, Feb. 29. Doubleheader action begins at 3 p.m.

East Central will be guests of Hinds Community College Saturday, March 3. Game times are 1 and 3 p.m. on the Raymond campus.

PPEAL

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

CLARION-LEDGER

ECCC Lady Diamond

WEEK OF February 26, 2012

from combined reports

The East Central Community College Lady Diamond Warriors went 6-3 in recent fastpitch action.

After splitting with Lamar State and sweeping East Mississippi, EC went 3-2 in the Northeast Mississippi Community College Invitational at Booneville over the weekend to bring an 11-4 record into this week.

Lamar State	**10-3**
EC	**2-4**

A bases-loaded walk in the bottom of the sixth inning provided the winning margin for EC in Game 2 of the February 17 doubleheader at Decatur.

EC trailed 3-1 in the sixth before rallying to take the lead for good in the matchup that featured several lead changes.

EC freshman Mary Sanders shut down the Lamar offense in the top of the seventh and the Lady Diamond Warriors held on for the victory and improved to 6-2.

Kelsi Watson and A.J. Peeler led the EC offense with a double and a single each. Brittany Pounders had a double.

Sanders went the distance, allowing three runs on 11 hits.

Stats were unavailable for the 10-2 loss in the opener.

EC	**8-12**
East Mississippi	**5-7**

EC continued its dominance over East Mississippi with last Wednesday's sweep at Decatur. The Lady Diamond Warriors improved to 8-2 with the two wins.

Brittany Pounders and Haylee Roberts had three hits each to lead EC in the opener. Pounders homered and hit two singles and Roberts collected three singles.

Warriors up mark to 11-4

Lajoya Griffin had a single and a triple and Haelie Allen had two singles.

Tenna Patterson went the distance to record the win. Patterson allowed two earned runs on seven hits.

In the second game, EC was cruising 7-0 until the visitors tied the contest with seven runs in the fifth. The Lady Diamond Warriors added a run in the fifth and four in the sixth to seal the victory.

Pounders led the offense with a double and three singles. Marlee Massey was credited with three singles and three RBI.

Griffin had a pair of doubles and Dakota Vowell had a pair of singles. Griffin also knocked in three runs.

Mary Sanders was the winning pitcher as she allowed one hit and no runs in 1 2/3 innings.

Kaetlyn Brown was the starting pitcher and went 4 1/3 innings, allowing six earned runs on five hits.

EC	**9**
Lane College	**1**

EC's offense was led by Kaetlen Brown, who pounded a double and two singles.

Also recording multiple hits were Kelsi Watson, Brittany Pounders, Dakota Vowell, and Haelie Allen, each with two singles.

Mary Sanders was the winning pitcher. She fanned seven and allowed just one run on three hits Friday at Booneville.

EC	**9**
Three Rivers	**1**

The Lady Diamond Warriors tallied four runs in the fourth inning and four in the fifth in cruising to the easy victory Friday at Booneville.

Lajoya Griffin homered and singled, Kelsi Watson blasted a double and two singles, and Kaetlen Brown collected three singles to lead the offense. Dakota Vowell had two singles.

Tenna Patterson was the winning pitcher in the five-inning battle, allowing one run on four hits. She also fanned six.

Calhoun	**3**
EC	**2**

EC managed just six hits in Saturday's loss at Booneville.

Haylee Roberts led the offense with a double and an RBI.

Kaetlen Brown took the loss, allowing three runs on five hits in the six-inning matchup. She fanned four and walked three.

EC	**1**
Itawamba	**0**

In Saturday's shutout, Mar-

Continued on 4B...

See 11-4...

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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February 26, 2012

11-4...

Continued from 3B...

lee Massey led the offense with three singles.

A.J. Peeler scored the game's only run in the second inning. Haelie Allen was credited with the RBI.

Patterson allowed just one hit and fanned 10 batters to record the victory.

NE Mississippi	5
EC	2

The Lady Diamond Warriors concluded the two-day event with a loss to host Northeast on Saturday.

Haylee Roberts had a homer and Kaetlen Brown collected two singles to lead the Lady Warrior offense.

Mary Sanders took the loss, allowing five earned runs on nine hits.

Week of March 11, 2012

ECCC softball team managers

Serving as managers on the 2012 East Central Community College fast-pitch softball team are, from left, Kathryn Upchurch of Neshoba Central, Jay Ethridge of Newton County and Tiffany Benson of Neshoba Central. The ECCC Lady Diamond Warriors are the defending MACJC State Champions. Scott Hill serves as head coach and Kristin Chaney is his assistant. East Central Community College is located in Decatur.

Appeared in:

Carthaginian_____

Newton County Appeal_____

Spirit of Morton_____

Meridian Star_____

Neshoba Democrat ✓

Scott County Times_____

Winston County Journal____

Clarion-Ledger_____

WEEK OF March 25, 2012

Diamond Warriors knock off Gulf Coast

from school reports

East Central Community College's baseball squad improved to 16-10 overall and 4-2 in the MACJC South Division following a doubleheader sweep of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Sunday at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex in Decatur.

The Diamond Warriors posted a 7-1 victory in the opener and cruised 6-1 in the nightcap to take the key division battles.

Ricardo Velez doubled and singled and knocked in two runs and Carlos Leal blasted two singles and had three RBIs to lead EC's offense in the opener. Both are from Puerto Rico.

Other hitters were Kalik May of Tuscaloosa (Ala) County High School and Tim Anderson of Hillcrest (Ala.) High School, singles each.

Runs were scored by Velez (two), Anderson (two), May, Leal and Fred Hampton of Nanih Waiya.

Right-hander Fernando Gonzalez was the winning pitcher, allowing one earned run on four hits through five innings. He fanned three batters and walked five. Gonzalez is from Puerto Rico. Right-hander Brock Ward of Louisville hurled two scoreless innings in relief and allowed one hit.

In the second contest, David McAdory of Louisville doubled and knocked in a run to lead the offense. Other hitters were Anderson, Leal and Kyle Henson of Starkville Academy, singles each. Henson was also credited with two RBIs. Anderson and Leal knocked in a run each.

Runs were scored by Hampton (two), Anderson, Velez, Leal and Rubert Alcantara of the Dominican Republic.

Right-hander Blake Dubuisson went the distance in the seven-inning matchup to record the victory. He allowed one earned run on eight hits. He also fanned a batter and walked two. Dubuisson is a product of Long Beach High School.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT 2x

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

(continued from previous page)

March 25, 20

ECCC softball earns big division sweep

from school reports

East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball squad registered a pair of key wins over Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Saturday on the Decatur campus.

The Lady Diamond Warriors rallied for a 5-3 victory in the opener and held on for an 8-6 decision in the second contest to improve to 21-8 overall and 5-3 in the MACJC South Division under head coach Scott Hill and assistant Kristin Chaney.

Gulf Coast dropped to 15-5 and 6-2. Jones County leads the division at 8-2. The Lady Bobcats are 22-3 overall.

A.J. Peeler belted a three-run homer to lead EC's offense in the opener. Peeler's blast came in the third inning when EC trailed 1-0. She is a product of Neshoba Central High School.

Other sluggers were Haelie Allen of Leake Academy, three singles; Kaetlen Brown, a product of Edgewood Academy in Deatsvile, Ala., two singles and an RBI; Haylee Roberts of Enterprise, single and RBI; and Marlee Massey of Neshoba Central and Lajoya Griffin of Philadelphia, singles each.

Runs were scored by Allen (two), Massey, Peeler and Griffin.

Tenna Patterson picked up the win, allowing two earned runs on five hits in the seven-inning battle. She fanned five batters. Patterson is a product of Lexington (Ala.) High School.

In the second game, the Lady Diamond Warriors once again overcame an early 1-0 deficit with a six-run fourth inning. Gulf Coast responded with three runs in the fifth to cut EC's advantage to 6-4. EC put its final two runs on the board in the fifth inning. The Lady Bulldogs responded with two runs in the sixth but could get no closer and EC held on for the victory

Roberts led the offense with a double, single and two RBIs. Peeler also doubled and singled.

Other hitters were Brittany Pounders of Southeast Lauderdale, double; and Massey, Griffin, Brown, Allen, Dakota Vowell of Neshoba Central and Kelsi Watson of Smithville, singles each. Massey and Vowell were also credited with two RBIs each, and Brown and Allen knocked in a run each.

Runs were scored by Griffin (two), Massey, Peeler, Pounders, Brown, Vowell and Allen.

Mary Sanders got the win, allowing four earned runs on six hits through 4 2/3 innings. She also fanned three batters. Sanders is a product of Adams County Christian in Natchez. Patterson hurled the final 2 1/3 innings and allowed two earned runs on four hits.

EC was to host Southwest Mississippi Tuesday and travels to Copiah-Lincoln Thursday and Northwest Mississippi Friday.

F March 25, 2012

ECCC Softball squad sweeps Gulf Coast

From press reports

East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball squad registered a pair of key wins over Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Saturday on the Decatur campus.

The Lady Diamond Warriors rallied for a 5-3 victory in the opener and held on for an 8-6 decision in the second contest to improve to 21-8 overall and 5-3 in the MACJC South Division under head coach Scott Hill and assistant Kristin Chaney.

Gulf Coast dropped to 15-5 and 6-2. Jones County leads the division at 8-2. The Lady Bulldogs are 22-3 overall.

A.J. Peeler belted a three-run homer to lead EC's offense in the opener. Peeler's blast came in the third inning when EC trailed 1-0. She is a product of Neshoba Central High School.

Other sluggers were Haelie Allen of Leake Academy, three singles; Kaetlen Brown, a product of Edgewood Academy in Deatsvile, Ala., two singles and an RBI; Haylee Roberts of Enterprise, single and RBI; and Marlee Massey of Neshoba Central and Lajoya Griffin of Philadelphia, singles each.

Runs were scored by Allen (2), Massey, Peeler and Griffin.

Tenna Patterson picked up the win, allowing two earned runs on five hits in the seven-inning battle. She fanned five batters. Patterson is a product of Lexington (Ala.) High School.

In the second game, the Lady Diamond Warriors once again overcame an early 1-0 deficit with a six-run fourth inning. Gulf Coast responded with three runs in the fifth to cut EC's advantage to 6-4. EC put its final two runs on the board in the fifth inning. The Lady Bulldogs responded with two runs in the sixth but could get no closer and EC held on for the victory

Roberts led the offense with a double, single and two RBIs. Peeler also doubled and singled.

Other hitters were Brittany Pounders of Southeast Lauderdale, double; and Massey, Griffin, Brown, Allen, Dakota Vowell of Neshoba Central and Kelsi Watson of Smithville, singles each. Massey and Vowell were also credited with two RBIs each, and Brown and Allen knocked in a run each.

Runs were scored by Griffin (2), Massey, Peeler, Pounders, Brown, Vowell and Allen.

Mary Sanders got the win, allowing four earned runs on six hits through 4 2/3 innings. She also fanned three batters. Sanders is a product of Adams Christian Academy in Natchez. Patterson hurled the final 2 1/3 innings and allowed two earned runs on four hits.

EC hosts Southwest Mississippi Community College Tuesday, March 27 and travels to Copiah-Lincoln Community College Thursday, March 29. Game times are 3 and 5 p.m. for the division battles.

The Lady Diamond Warriors travel to Northwest Mississippi Community College Friday, March 30. Game times are 2 and 4 p.m. on the Senatobia campus.

APPEARED IN:

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL 2x

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March 25, 2012

ECCC Diamond Warriors take doubleheader from Gulf Coast

From press reports

East Central Community College's baseball squad improved to 16-10 overall and 4-2 in the MACJC South Division following a doubleheader sweep of MS Gulf Coast Community College Sunday at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex in Decatur.

The Diamond Warriors posted a 7-1 victory in the opener and cruised 6-1 in the nightcap to take the key division battles.

Ricardo Velez doubled and singled and knocked in two runs and Carlos Leal blasted two singles and had three RBIs to lead EC's offense in the opener. Both are from Puerto Rico.

Other hitters were Kalik May of Tuscaloosa (Ala) County High School and Tim Anderson of Hillcrest (Ala.) High School, singles each.

Runs were scored by Velez (2), Anderson (2), May, Leal and Fred Hampton of Nanih Waiya.

Right-hander Fernando Gonzalez was the winning pitcher, allowing one earned run on four hits through five innings. He fanned three batters and walked five. Gonzalez is from Puerto Rico. Right-hander Brock Ward of Louisville hurled two scoreless innings in relief and allowed one hit.

In the second contest, David McAdory of Louisville doubled and knocked in a run to lead the offense. Other hitters were Anderson, Leal and Kyle Henson of Starkville Academy, singles each. Henson was also credited with two RBIs. Anderson and Leal knocked in a run each.

Runs were scored by Hampton (2), Anderson, Velez, Leal and Rubert Alcantara of the Dominican Republic.

Right-hander Blake Dubuisson went the distance in the seven-inning matchup to record the victory. He allowed one earned run on eight hits. He also fanned a batter and walked two. Dubuisson is a product of Long Beach High School.

EC hosts division foe Jones County Junior College Wednesday, March 28, in doubleheader action getting under way at 3 p.m. at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex. Two seven-inning matchups are scheduled.

The Diamond Warriors travel to Pearl River Community College Saturday, March 31. The first of two seven-inning battles begins at 1 p.m. on the Poplarville campus.

ECCC's baseball program is led by head coach Neal Holliman and assistants Justin Brewer and Jack Edmonson.

WEEK OF March 25, 2012

ECCC Lady Diamond Warriors sweep Gulf Coast

from combined reports

It was feast or famine for the East Central Community College Lady Diamond Warriors last week as they were swept by Jones County Junior College (2-0, 9-0), then took a pair of games from Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College (5-3, 8-6).

Games with Copiah-Lincoln Community College were rained out and rescheduled for this week.

EC brought a 21-8 overall record and a 5-3 MACJC South Division mark into this week.

In this week's games, EC was scheduled to host Southwest Mississippi on Monday and go to Wesson to take on Co-Lin on Thursday and to Senatobia to face Northwest Mississippi on Friday.

Jones	**2-9**
EC	**0-0**

Tenth-ranked Jones posted a division sweep in Decatur on March 19.

EC fell to 19-8 overall and 3-3 in the division.

Jones improved to 16-3 overall and 4-2 in the division.

A.J. Peeler of Neshoba Central led EC's offense in the first contest with three singles. Marlee Massey also had a single.

Tenna Patterson took the loss, allowing two runs on six hits in the seven-inning contest. She also fanned three and walked one.

Ginger Lonergan (8-1) tossed a four-hit shutout and struck out 12 to pace the Lady Bobcats.

In the second game, EC's offense managed just three hits — singles each by Peeler, Haylee Roberts, and Kelsi Watson.

Kaetlen Brown took the loss, allowing eight earned runs on 10 hits through 3 1/3 innings. She fanned two and walked two.

Continued on B5...
See ECCC...

ECCC...

Continued from B3...

Lauren Candies (7-2) went five innings, gave up two hits, struck out two, and walked none as JCJC completed the sweep.

EC	**5-8**
Gulf Coast	**3-6**

The Lady Diamond Warriors improved to 21-8 overall and 5-3 in the South Division with Saturday's sweep at Decatur.

Gulf Coast dropped to 15-5 and 6-2. Jones County leads the division at 8-2.

A.J. Peeler belted a three-run homer to lead EC's offense in the opener. Peeler's blast came in the third inning when EC trailed 1-0.

Other sluggers were Haelie Allen of Leake Academy with three singles, Kaetlen Brown with two singles, and Haylee Roberts, Marlee Massey, and Lajoya Griffin of Philadelphia with a single each.

Tenna Patterson picked up the win, allowing two earned runs on five hits in the seven-inning battle.

In the second game, the Lady Diamond Warriors once again overcame an early 1-0 deficit with a six-run fourth inning.

Gulf Coast responded with three runs in the fifth to cut EC's advantage to 6-4.

EC put its final two runs on the board in the fifth.

Roberts led the offense with a double, a single, and two RBI.

Peeler also doubled and singled.

Other hitters were Brittany Pounders with a double and Massey, Griffin, Brown, Allen, Dakota Vowell, and Kelsi Watson with a single apiece.

Mary Sanders got the win, allowing four earned runs on six hits through 4 2/3 innings. She also fanned three.

APPEARED IN:

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF April 1, 2012

ECCC Lady Diamond Warriors

from combined reports

The East Central Community College Lady Diamond Warriors went 3-1 in last week's MACJC South Division fastpitch action.

EC swept Southwest Mississippi (2-1, 13-1) and split with Copiah-Lincoln, losing 2-1 and winning 8-4.

This week, EC was slated to host Hinds on Monday and Pearl River today in a pair of division doubleheaders.

EC	2-13
Southwest Miss.	1-1

Marlee Massey scored the winning run after Lajoya Griffin drew a bases-loaded walk in the bottom of the seventh inning, allowing EC to escape with a hard-earned 2-1 victory over Southwest on March 27 in the first of two matchups in Decatur.

The Lady Diamond Warriors had a much easier time in the second contest and cruised 13-1 to complete a sweep and improve to 23-8 overall and 7-3 in league play.

EC managed just four hits in the opener — singles by Massey, Griffin, A.J. Peeler, and Brittany Pounders.

up record to 24-9

Southwest grabbed a 1-0 lead in the top of the third on a solo homer by Tipheri Grimes.

Tenna Patterson posted another strong performance in the circle to get the win. She allowed just four hits in the seven-inning battle and fanned eight batters.

EC's bats came alive in the second contest, producing five runs in the third and seven in the fourth.

Sluggers were Kaetlen Brown with two doubles and two RBI, Haelie Allen with two singles and three RBI, Peeler with two singles, and Pounders with a double and two RBI. Massey and Dakota Vowell both had a single and two RBI.

Continued on B4...
See 24-9...

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(continued from previous page)

April 1, 2012

24-9...

Continued from B2...

Mary Sanders was the winning pitcher as she allowed just three hits in the five-inning contest.

EC 1-8
Copiah-Lincoln 2-4

After falling 2-1 in the opener, EC rallied for an 8-4 victory in the second contest with Copiah-Lincoln Thursday at Wesson.

Following the split, EC's record stood at 24-9 overall and 8-4 in league play, while Co-Lin's record was 13-17 and 4-10. Jones and Gulf Coast are tied for the division lead with 10-2 marks. Jones is 26-3 overall and Gulf Coast sports a 19-5 overall mark.

In the opener, Co-Lin scored its two runs in the first inning and EC earned its only run in the second.

Brittany Pounders had a double and Haylee Roberts, Lajoya Griffin, Tenna Patterson, Kelsi Watson, and Haelie Allen each had a single for EC.

Patterson took the loss, allowing the two runs on six hits through six innings. She fanned five and walked three.

In the second contest, EC's bats came alive early as the squad scored seven runs in the first inning.

Dakota Vowell's three-run triple in the first inning helped lead the offense.

ECCC Lady Diamond

WEEK OF April 8, 2012

from combined reports

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors improved their stock in the MACJC South Division standings with a rain-delayed sweep of Hinds Community College last week.

EC won the opener 8-3 and took an 8-7 nine-inning win in the second game three days later to improve to 26-9 overall and 10-4 in the division.

"I'm proud of our first round of division play," said EC coach Scott Hill. "We were 8-4 and would like to do that well or better in the second round to make sure we secure ourselves a spot in the playoffs."

The top four teams from each division make the MACJC State Tournament.

"Right now, we're sitting in a tie for second place with Gulf Coast," Hill said. "If we play really, really well and keep moving up the ladder in division play, it only helps during tournament time. The higher seed you are, the lower seed you will play from the North Division and the North is much improved this year."

MACJC South Division
Through April 8

Jones	14-2
East Central	10-4
Gulf Coast	10-4
Pearl River	7-5
Co-Lin	5-11
Hinds	3-13
Southwest	3-13

Last week's doubleheader with Pearl River at Decatur was postponed due to expected rain. No makeup date was determined by press deadline.

In games this week, EC was scheduled to go to Jones on Tuesday before hosting Copiah-Lincoln on Saturday.

EC	8
Hinds	3

Warriors rally to sweep Hinds

A.J. Peeler's three-run homer highlighted a five-run sixth inning and provided EC with an 8-3 division victory over Hinds on April 2 in Decatur.

The second game of the scheduled doubleheader was postponed until last Thursday due to inclement weather.

With the key division win, EC improved to 25-9 overall and 9-4 in league play.

In the opener, EC also got two doubles and a single from Brittany Pounders, three singles from Haelie Allen, two singles from Lajoya Griffin, and one single each from Marlee Massey, Haylee Roberts, and Tenna Patterson.

Patterson also got the win in the circle, allowing three earned runs on 10 hits through seven innings. She fanned two and walked one.

EC	8
Hinds	7

See Rally, 3-B...

ECCC's A.J. Peeler snags a fly ball in shallow right field in Thursday's 8-7 win over Hinds.
Photo by Marty Stamper/The Appeal

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(Continued from previous page)

April 8, 2012

Rally...

From 2-B...

Haylee Roberts' two-run homer to right field tied the game in the bottom of the ninth and a bases loaded infield hit by Marlee Massey scored the winning run in completing the weather-delayed doubleheader Thursday at Decatur.

Massey's hit scored Tenna Patterson with the game-winning run.

Twice EC trailed by two runs as Hinds led 5-3 on a bases-clearing double by Olivia Tripp in the fifth inning. The Lady Eagles scored twice in the top of the ninth to take a 7-5 lead.

With the sweep, the Lady Diamond Warriors improved to 26-9 overall and 10-4 in league competition.

EC trailed the visitors 5-4 in the seventh when Kelsi Watson's single scored Mary Sanders and sent the division battle into extra innings.

Roberts, a sophomore from Enterprise, also belted a single and finished with four RBI.

Patterson had four singles, Massey had three singles, A.J. Peeler had a single and a double, Watson and Haelie Allen both had two singles, and Kaetlen Brown had one single.

Patterson went the distance in the nine-inning battle to record the victory. She allowed three earned runs on eight hits. She also fanned eight and walked five.

Lady Diamond Warriors qualify for state tourney

WEEK OF April 15, 2012

from combined reports

An MACJC South Division doubleheader sweep of Copiah-Lincoln (4-2, 10-3) last week qualified the East Central Community College Lady Diamond Warriors for the upcoming state playoffs.

EC had been swept by Jones Junior College (7-0, 1-0) earlier in the week.

EC was 28-11 entering this week.

This week, EC was scheduled to go to Mississippi Gulf Coast on Tuesday, host Pearl River on Thursday, and go to Southwest Mississippi on Friday.

Jones	**7 - 1**
EC	**0 - 0**

The Lady Diamond Warriors fired blanks in both games of the April 10 division doubleheader at Ellisville.

EC, ranked 19th in the NJCAA Division II poll, dropped to 26-11 overall and 10-6 in division play with the two losses. Jones, ranked No. 5 nationally, improved to 30-5 and 16-2.

MACJC South Division
Through April 15

Jones	18-2
East Central	12-6
Gulf Coast	11-7
Pearl River	11-7
Co-Lin	7-13
Southwest	5-15
Hinds	4-18

In the opener, Ginger Lonergan tossed a five-hit shutout for Jones. Lonergan (14-2) had nine strikeouts.

Haelie Allen, A.J. Peeler, Haylee Roberts, Brittany Pounders, and Kaetlen Brown each had a single for EC.

Mary Sanders went the distance and took the loss.

In game two, Lauren Candies (14-3) threw a five-hit shutout for Jones. She struck out three.

Brittney McBrain's sacrifice fly to center field scored Rebecca Dunn with the game's only run in the bottom of the seventh inning.

Tenna Patterson took the tough-luck loss for EC. She gave up two hits and two walks and fanned four.

Peeler, Roberts, Patterson, Brown, and Lajoya Griffin each singled for EC.

EC outhit the Lady Bobcats 5-2, but were unable to put runs on the board.

EC	**4 - 10**
Copiah-Lincoln	**2 - 3**

EC clinched a playoff berth with Saturday's sweep at Decatur. The Lady Diamond Warriors improved to 28-11 overall and 12-6 in the MACJC South Division with the two wins.

In the first game, Kelsi Watson's solo homer followed by A.J. Peeler's two-run double and Haelie Allen's RBI-single in the fifth inning broke open a scoreless contest and gave EC a 4-0 advantage.

Co-Lin responded with two runs in

See Qualify, 3-B...

ECCC shortstop Brittany Pounders snares a ground ball during recent action.

photo by Marty Stamper/The Appeal

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(continued from previous page)

April 15, 2012

Qualify...

From 2-B

the sixth to complete the scoring.

Lajoya Griffin and Marlee Massey both contributed a single and scored a run. Allen also singled and scored.

Tenna Patterson picked up the win, allowing two earned runs on eight hits through seven innings. She fanned three and walked three.

In the second contest, Haylee Roberts belted a three-run homer in the fifth inning and added a two-run single in the sixth to lead the Lady Diamond Warrior offense.

Kaetlen Brown also homered.

Peeler added three singles, Allen, Massey, and Dakota Vowell each had two singles, Kaetlen Brown had a double, and Griffin and Brittany Pounders each had a single.

Massey and Peeler both scored two runs.

Co-Lin scored two runs in the first inning and added its final run in the third.

Mary Sanders picked up the win, allowing three earned runs on 13 hits through five innings. She also fanned a batter.

Patterson hurled the final two innings and fanned two Co-Lin batters.

With the wins, EC secured a berth in the MACJC State Tournament, April 26-27, at the site of the MACJC North Division winner.

WEEK OF April 22, 2012

East Central softball squad begins play in state tournament Thursday

from school reports

After falling 1-0 in the opener, East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball squad rallied for a 5-1 victory in the second contest with Southwest Mississippi in the regular season finale held Friday on the Summit campus.

The defending MACJC State Champion Lady Diamond Warriors will take a 31-14 overall record and 15-7 mark in MACJC South Division action to this week's state tournament scheduled Thursday and Friday at Itawamba.

The Lady Warriors (South No. 3 seed) will face Northwest Mississippi (North No. 2 seed) at noon Thursday in first-round competition of the single elimination event. Live video of the matchup is available at http://www.ihigh.com./nwc-crangers/index.html.

The state championship game is set for 5 p.m., Friday.

In the first game with Southwest, EC's offense never got untracked and managed just one hit – a single by A.J. Peeler of Neshoba Central.

Tenna Patterson was again superb on the mound, allowing the one run on two hits through six innings. The Lexington (Ala.) product fanned six batters.

In the second game, the Lady Warrior offense responded by scoring two runs in the second inning and three in the fourth in a 10-hit attack.

Haelie Allen of Leake Academy led EC with three singles and an RBI. She also scored a run.

Marlee Massey of Neshoba Central also had a productive outing at the plate with a triple and a double. She also knocked in a run.

Other hitters were Peeler, Haylee Roberts of Enterprise, Kaetlen Brown of Edgewood (Ala.) Academy, Kelsi Watson of Smithville and Lajoya Griffin of Philadelphia, singles each. Griffin was also credited with two RBIs. Dakota Vowell of Neshoba Central was also credited with an RBI.

Mary Smith was the winning pitcher. Smith allowed one run on seven hits through seven innings. She fanned five batters and walked one. Sanders is a product of Adams Christian in Natchez.

EC's softball program is led by head coach Scott Hill and assistant Kristin Chaney.

East Central offers kids free tennis

Members of East Central Community College's tennis teams are offering free tennis lessons to children ages 6-13 during activities scheduled Thursday, May 3, announced Coach Dianne O'Neill.

Instruction for ages 6-8 begins at 4 p.m. followed by lessons for ages 9-13 at 5 p.m. on the ECCC tennis courts in Decatur.

O'Neill said participants should provide tennis shoes, water bottle and tennis racket (if available). Tennis balls and water will be provided.

For more information, contact Coach Dianne O'Neill, 601-862-2130.

—from school reports

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WEEK OF April 29, 2012

Correction: Nanih Waiya senior Laken Fulcher signed to play softball for East Central Community College on Apr. 23. She is pictured signing her letter of intent with (bottom row, l to r) parents Brenda Fulcher, Todd Fulcher, and Tammy Rogers, (top row l to r) Nanih Waiya Lady Warriors Head Coach Jennifer Holdiness and ECCC Head Softball Coach Scott Hill. Fulcher is looking forward to play for the Lady Warriors next season.

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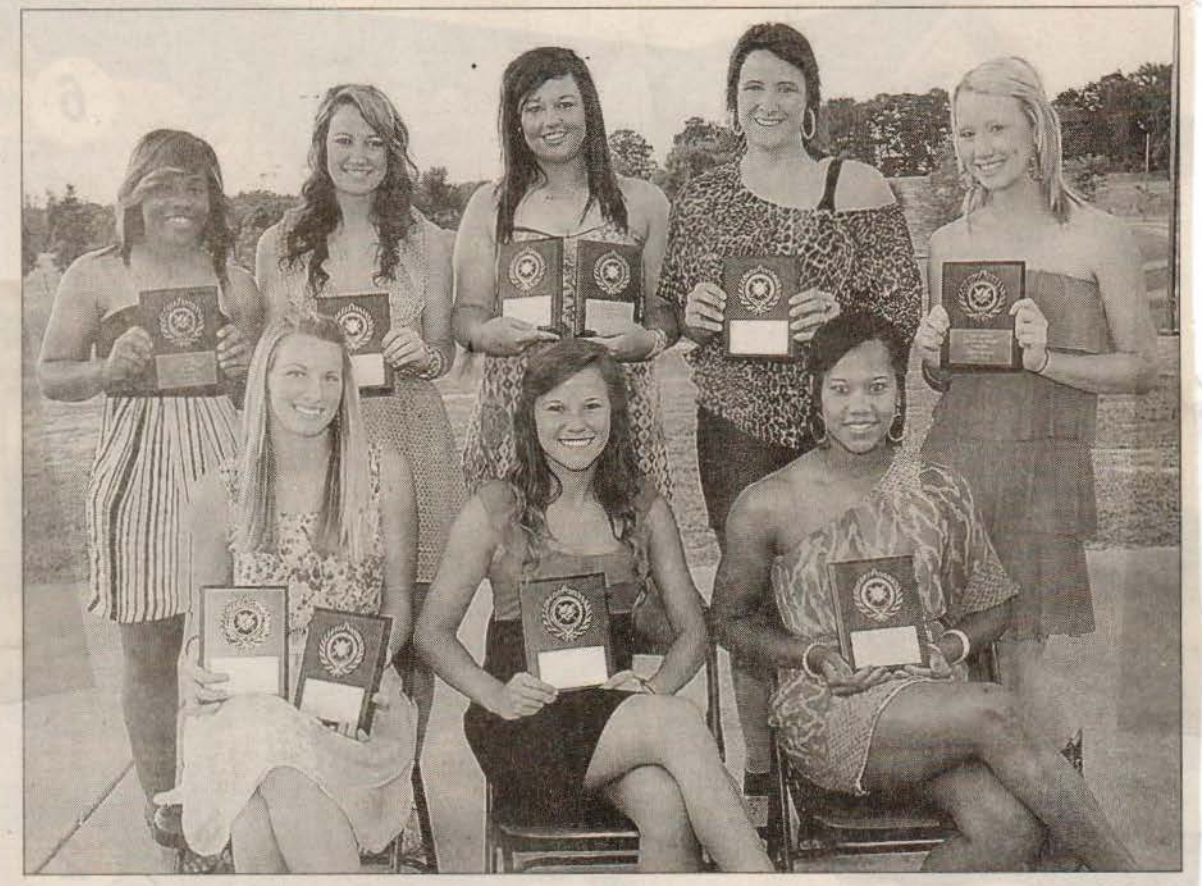
WEEK OF May 13, 2012

SOFTBALL HONOREES



ECCC photo

These members of the 2011-12 East Central Community College fast-pitch softball team received honors at the Spring Sports Banquet held May 1 on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are Kelsi Watson, a product of Smithville High School, most valuable defensive player and scholar athlete; Haelie Allen of Leake Academy, Lady Warrior Award; and Lajoya Griffin of Philadelphia, base runner award. Standing from left are A.J. Peeler of Neshoba Central, most valuable offensive player; Mary Sanders of Adams Christian Academy in Natchez, most improved; Tenna Patterson of Lexington (Ala.) High School, most valuable player and most valuable pitcher; Brittany Pounders of Southeast Lauderdale, top slugger; and Haylee Roberts of Enterprise, team captain award. The Lady Diamond Warriors advanced to first-round action of the MACJC State Softball Tournament en route to a 31-15 record. ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin and Warrior head coach Scott Hill presented awards.

APPEARED IN:

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Chaney replacing Hill as ECCC softball coach

WEEK OF June 10, 2012

By Jamie Wachter
jwachter@themeridianstar.com

There was no magic formula for the East Central Community College softball program's success under Scott Hill.

Rather, it all stemmed to some advice Hill received from his father.

Chaney

"I attribute it all to bringing in some really good people," said Hill, whose decision to step down as the Warriors' softball coach and accept a full-time teaching position at the college was approved Tuesday during the college's Board of Trustees meeting. Kristin Chaney, Hill's assistant the past four seasons, was selected to replace him.

"My dad once gave me some advice. He said, 'Surround yourself with good people.' So, that's one thing we've tried to do is to look for good people in addition to good players."

Hill and Chaney certainly found good players. During his nine years in Decatur, Hill amassed a 308-123-1 record. ECCC also recorded its first NJCAA Region 23 championship in 2010 and first MACJC state tournament title in 2011. Both years the Warriors advanced to the NJCAA national tournament, finishing fourth in the country in 2010 with a 47-11-1 record and fifth in the nation in 2011 at 37-15. ECCC also won three straight MACJC Central Division titles during Hill's tenure.

Paula Merritt/The Meridian Star

East Central Community College softball coach Scott Hill has stepped down to accept another position at the college following nine seasons at the helm. Hill led the Warriors to consecutive national tournament berths.

"I feel like I'm leaving the program in good shape," he said.

Part of that feeling, he explained, comes with the promotion of Chaney — who played for two years under Hill at ECCC — to the head role. Chaney, the college's only two-sport All-American (softball and basketball) played for the Warriors in 2004-05 before

See **ECCC** on page B2 —

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June 10, 2012

(continued from previous page)

ECCC from page B1

attending Southern Miss.

Her return as Hill's assistant helped produce the national success, Hill said.

"She is going to do a great job," he said. "I wouldn't want to step down for anybody else. She has been a part of six of the nine teams I've had here and the timing of it all just made good sense.

"She's one of those people I can certainly say played a big part in our success. Credit for it can't go to just one person, but I would give a lot of it to her.

"I think it's a compliment to our program that the college felt comfortable to look within and not open the position up elsewhere."

While Chaney's presence aided Hill in coming to the decision to step down after 20 seasons in coaching softball, she admitted replacing her former boss and coach makes the promotion "even more special."

"First and foremost, I want to thank coach Hill for everything he has done for the softball program at East Central," she said in a school release. "He truly has bettered the program with the renovations to the field as well as bringing the first championship to the program.

"I would not be able to be in this position without him and will forever be grateful for everything he has done for this program as well as me.

"I am excited to step into this role as head coach. I love East Central from the bottom of my heart. I will forever bleed black and gold. This is a special time for me and I cannot begin to express my excitement. I only hope to build on the rich tradition here."

WEEK OF June 24, 2012

Bishop inks with ECCC

Newton County High School softball standout Shelby Bishop (seated center) is shown signing a national letter of intent to continue her career in 2012-13 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Bishop, a catcher/infielder, helped lead the Lady Cougars to six state championships in fastpitch and slowpitch competition during her career. Bishop's honors include her selection on the All-State Class 4A team and The Clarion-Ledger's All-State squad in 2011 and 2012. The new Lady Diamond Warrior is shown with her parents, (seated from left), Randy and Shea Bishop of Hickory; and (standing) Newton County softball coach Justin Chaney and his sister, recently named ECCC head softball coach Kristin Chaney.

EC photo

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WEEK OF July 8, 2012

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC INTRAMURAL SOFTBALL RUNNERS-UP

"The Repeats" won runner-up honors in the annual intramural softball competition held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Team members include (kneeling from left) Jay Ethridge, Jared Canoy, Kelcia Bufkin and LaRomeo McKee, both of Forest; and (standing from left) Jared Walker, Joey Lawn, Tyravian Miller, Jackson Therrien, and Jimmie Broomfield, Forest. ECCC softball head coach Scott Hill, a native of Forest serves as director of intramurals.

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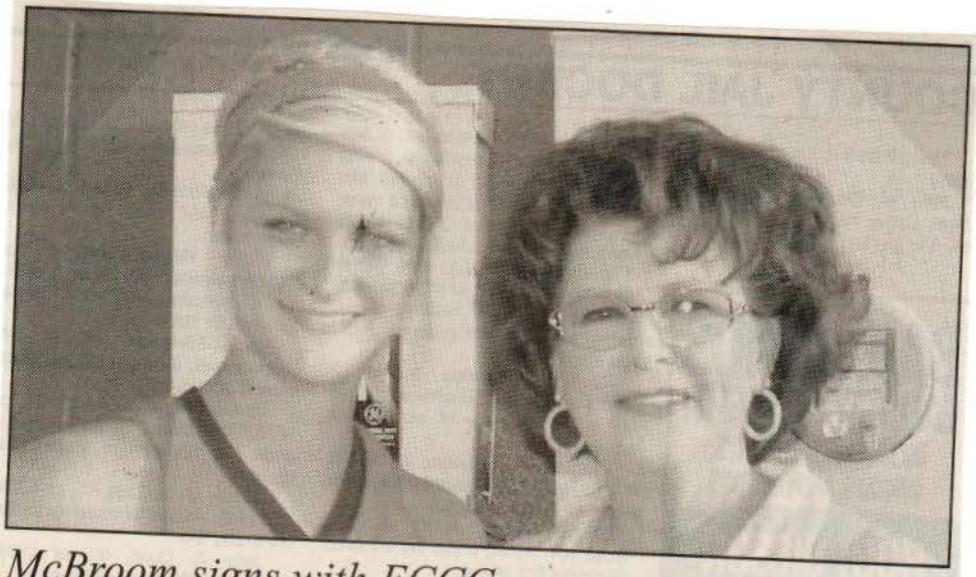
CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF July 15, 2012



McBroom signs with ECCC

Brandon High School student Amber McBroom recently signed a national letter of intent to play softball at East Central Community College in Decatur. McBroom, a shortstop and pitcher, signed on Jan. 17. She is the daughter of Ken and Christie McBroom and the granddaughter of Johnnie and Linda Robertson, all of Brandon. Shown, from left, are McBroom and Linda Robertson.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF July 29, 2012

Lady Warrior fastpitch awards

These members of the 2012 East Central Community College fastpitch softball team received honors at the Spring Sports Banquet. Seated from left are Kelsi Watson (Most Valuable Defensive Player and Scholar Athlete, Haelie Allen (Lady Warrior Award), and Lajoya Griffin (Base Runner Award). Standing are A.J. Peeler (Most Valuable Offensive Player), Mary Sanders (Most Improved), Tenna Patterson (Most Valuable Player and Most Valuable Pitcher), Brittany Pounders (Top Slugger), and Haylee Roberts (Captain Award). The Lady Diamond Warriors advanced to first-round action of the MACJC State Softball Tournament en route to a 31-15 record.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF July 29, 2012

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC INTRAMURAL SOFTBALL CHAMPIONS

"Project Newsome" captured top honors in the intramural softball championship held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Team members include (kneeling from left) Kendrell Sherrod, Chris Mayes and Deaerious Miller, all of Louisville; Khiry Warren and Montre Moore, both of Meridian; Raychaz Gray, Meridian; and Demarcus Coleman, Louisville; and (standing from left) Tramaine Johnson, Decatur; Vacinte' Young, Louisville; L.D. Jones, Stringer; Xavier Rodgers, Louisville; Darius Beavers, Stringer; Dean McClendon, Forest; Antwain Boykin, Louin; Rod Clark and Jamarcus Coleman, both of Louisville; and DeMarcus Taylor, Enterprise. ECCC softball head coach Scott Hill serves as director of intramurals.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF August 26, 2012

Nunn selected East Central softball assistant

From school reports

Courtney Nunn, of Jonesboro, La., was recently named assistant fast-pitch softball coach at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced new Warrior head coach Kristin Chaney.

Prior to joining the ECCC coaching staff, Nunn assisted with recreational projects for the Jackson Parish Recreation Department in Jonesboro, La. She also has experience as an umpire for softball and baseball games on several levels. In addition, she has provided pitching instruction to young softball players in her hometown. Most recently, she served as a volunteer pitching coach for a softball clinic hosted by East Mississippi Community College in Scooba.

Nunn

Nunn is a former softball standout as a pitcher on the high school, community college and four-year college levels.

At Jonesboro-Hodge High School, she received first team All-State honors in 2007 and 2008 and was earned first-team All-District selection in 2004, 2006, 2007 and 2008. She was named second team All-District selection in 2005. She was named second team All-District in 2005. She was recognized as the LHSAA All-North Strikeout Leader in 2008. She helped lead Jonesboro-Hodge to the state semi-finals in 2006.

Nunn continued her career at East Mississippi, where in 2010 she received All-Region and MACJC All-State honors as a pitcher and was named MACJC All-North Division Defensive Player of the Year. She also earned MACJC All-State honors in 2009. She received an Associates of Arts degree in May 2010.

At Mississippi College, Nunn was named ASC Conference Pitcher of the Year and received first team All-Conference honors in 2012. She helped lead the Choctaws to the ASC Conference and NCAA Regions in 2011. In addition, she received "Pitcher of the Week" honors on three occasions during the 2011 and 2012 seasons. She earned a bachelor's degree in kinesiology in May 2012.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF January 1, 2012

Top EC surgical tech student

Sonya Jones-Jenkins (center) of Carthage was recently named Surgical Technology Student of the Year at East Central Community College in Decatur. Jones-Jenkins received the honor from LeAnn Shirley (left), program director/instructor (left) and instructor Kristie Pilgrim during the annual pinning ceremony held Thursday, Dec. 15, 2011, in the Vickers Fine Arts Center. Jones-Jenkins was among 15 graduates of the 12-month program who were recognized for their accomplishment.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF January 1, 2011

Organizations/ clubs

EC Practical Nursing officers

East Central Community College in Decatur recently announced Practical Nursing Organization members for 2011-12. The club consists of practical nursing students seeking to serve and protect the public promoting quality patient care. Members include: (front row, from left) Chiquita Porter, Noxapater; Kristy Bounds, Forest; Kimberly Traxle, Polkville; Allyson Nichols, Morton; and Suzy Lan, Philadelphia; (middle row, from left) Jennifer Clark, Louisville; Michelle Call, Meridian; Rebecca Estes, Louisville; Lara Elliot, Nanih Waiya; and Morgan Coleman, Carthage; (back row, from left) Jennifer Allgood, Meridian; Tina Cargile, Forest; Patience Haynes, Noxapater; and Erin Goldmon, Philadelphia. Practical nursing instructors Melanie Pinter, Theresa Cole and Alicia Gatlin serve as club sponsors.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF January 8, 2012

SAVING LIVES AT ECCC

Submitted photo

East Central Community College freshman Shawn Wiseman of Richton was among participants in a recent on-campus blood drive conducted by United Blood Services. The two-day effort netted 77 pints of blood, according to a UBS spokesperson.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF January 8, 2012

THE MERIDIAN STAR
Sunday, January 8, 2012

ECCC NEWMAN CLUB

Submitted photo

East Central Community College in Decatur recently announced Newman Club members for 2011-12. The organization consists of a group of Catholic students. Members include: front row, from left, Jade Castillo of Morton and Kelsey Hall of Polkville; and (back row, from left) Justin McNeal and Sam Irby, both of Morton. Vice President for Instruction Dr. Lavinia Sparkman serves as club sponsor.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF January 15, 2012

Color Guard members for the 2011-12 East Central Community College Wall O'Sound Marching Band include (first row, from left) Lydia Cook and Shelby Powell, both of Meridian; Tiffany Benson, Philadelphia; Rachel Sharp, Louisville; Kayla Brown, Forest; and India Ball, Louisville; (second row, from left) Olivia Harrison, Little Rock; Magen Pierce, Newton; Kayla Greer, Katherine Upchurch, and Ashleigh Salvage, all of Philadelphia; and De' Obra Smith of Louisville; (third row, from left) Breanna Terrell, Decatur; Stevie Pace, Lake; Ariel Brauner, Lousville; Corie Skinner, Union; Persephiney Wingo, Morton; and Jasmine Pickens, Newton; and (back row, from left) Tori McInnis, Union; Amanda Packer, Decatur; Megan Smith, Lake; Color Guard director Janie Mayfield, Union; Lorraina Burkes, Sebastopol; Amanda Barnett, Union and Kierra Ealy, Morton. Thomas W. Carson serves as director of bands and Ed Girling is assistant director. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF January 15, 2012

ECCC announces fall semester honor roll

Students named to the 2011 fall semester honor roll, which includes those selected to the President's List, Dean's List and Honorable Mention List, have been announced at East Central Community College in Decatur, according to David Case, Director of Admissions, Records and Research.

PRESIDENT'S LIST

WINSTON: Lucas Cade Calvert, Katrina Combest, Frederick Delon Hampton, Zach Walker McGarr, Madison Claire Nowell, Stephanie Sophia Owens, Raychal Ann Reed, Tate William Rogers and Lori Marie Young, all of Louisville; Kelvin Lavorn Ball, McCool; Morgan Brock McDaniel and Stephanie Paige Swindle, both of Noxapater; and Rachel Elaine Sharp, Sturgis; and

DEAN'S LIST

WINSTON: Jamal Rafeal Bates, Trent Lee Boswell, Patricia Ann Bragg, Channing Flynt Bucklew, Brittany Leigh Burton, Jocelyn Lashara Coleman, Courtney K. Cravens, Matthew Rural Dempsey, Ashley Brook Dickerson, Candace Noel Duran, Kristi Michelle Fulcher, Skky Brittany Glass, Natunya Koshunya Glenn, Erin Rachel Hathorn, Patience Deirra Haynes, Evan Wade Humphries, Jacob Olen Johnson, John Wesley Kight, Robbie Morgen Moffitt, Tommy B. G. Russell, Ryan Mathis Shotts, Chandler LaRoss Smith, Drew Thomas Smith, Brock Kendall Ward, Maggie Elizabeth Watson and David Patrick Wylie, all of Louisville; Sarah Jean Orr, Taylor Jessica Smith, and Alyse Nicole Webb, all of Noxapater;

HONORABLE MENTION

WINSTON: Kendrick Ball, Amanda Chaise Barrett, Santana Latrice Carter, Linda Kay Christian, Jennifer Carol Clark, Cody Patrick Collins, Rebekah Reigh Crocker, Cory Jamison Goodin, Bailey Marie Hartness, Morgan Tabor Hillhouse, Hillary Elaine Hobby, Samantha Brooke Holdiness, Joshua Grant Jones, Katelyn Suzanne Jordan, Christopher M. Mays, David Matthew McAdory, Cottrell Deshawn Miller, Cody Lamar Parkes, Alexis Nikole Prisock, Allison Renee Rogers, Becky Gene Watt and Ashley Nicole Wood, all of Louisville; Metreck Juwan Ball, India Lee Ball, Deonta Roshod Hawthorne, Quinn'Toya Wykeisha Miller, all of McCool; John Wilburn Bane, Rebecca Caroline Barrier, Mary Kathryn Boswell, Cody Lee Boyette, Jamone Jashay Moore and Alexandria Prezley Thomas, all of Noxapater.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

ECCC releases fall semester honor rosters

East Central Community College has released its 2011 fall semester honor roll which includes those selected to the President's List, Dean's List and Honorable Mention List.

Those named to the President's List, students with a 4.0 grade point average, include the following:

Leake County - Lindsey Renee Adams, Wendy McCracken Burns, Dustin Lamar Cullen, Barbara Jean Hodges, Kimberly Ladalya Johnson, Sonya D. Jones-Jenkins, Justin Hollis Kittrell, Lakecia Ann McQueen, Heather Marie Smith and Karli Danielle Withers, ll of Carthage;

Meghan Alaina Johnson, Shelby Lynn Johnston, Layna Michelle Phillips and Denise Patrica Townsend, all of Lena; and Wanda Diana Harrison and Erin Leigh Thornton, both of Walnut Grove.

Those named to the Dean's List, students who achieved a 3.5 or above grade point average, include the following:

Richard Alan Ainsworth, Ericia Lauren Blanton, Cindy Kay Burnside, Kati Ann Gill, Deanna Melanie Hernandez, Paul Ray Johnson, Stephen Hunter Mayo, Erin Brooke Moore, Ashley Elizabeth Moore, Dakota W. Morris, Tyler Jordan Neal, Christina Lee Anna Nollie,

LaTia Deshae Peavy, Kara Nichole Pitts, Benjamin Cain Prestage, Crystal Dawn Roland, Christina Blair Wallace, Jenny Catherine Wilbanks and Augustus Chad Wilcher, all of Carthage;

Haelie Kathleen Allen, Ashley Nichole Glaze and Lacie Nicole Sessums, all of Lena;

Lauren Pamela Davidson, Caitlan Marie Dearman, Jeremy Scott Denson, Victoria Michelle Moore, and Anita Kaye Wysocki, all of Walnut Grove.

Those named to the Honorable Mention List and earned a 3.0 or above grade point average include the following:

Haden Austin Bozeman, Mary Elizabeth Burnside, Morgan Elizabeth Coleman, India L. Dickerson, Evan Clay Dowell, Jacob Moray Frasier, Hunter Blake Grundy, James Matthew Hanna, Keeonia Anthonique Henry, Kenzey Raquel Kahn,

Ryan Brooks Sessum and Holly Rachel Wade both of Lena; Cynthi Denise Carter, Josep Cyrus Carter, Corey Le Cremeen Brigitte Tar Fisher, Tommy Le Frazier, Lance Mar Jones, Mary Kathry Loper, Candace Ma Marchant, William Turne Stevens and Bria Andrew Yates, both o Walnut Grove.

Amanda Mae Kelleher, Matthew Brool Kimble, Alexandr Elizabeth Kirby, Hilla Nichole Kitchens, Marth Brittany Martin, Iosho Quisha May, Megha Ashley McIntos Catherine Claire Moor Joshua Taylor People Keith Maurice Phillip Kimberly Gabriell Ramsey, Thomas Josep Reeves,

Ashley Leann Roger Amber Brooke Roland Brandon Michael Seller Mikhail Mickey Seri Danny Carl Smith Anthony Chans Thaggard and Erin Denis Wooten, all of Carthage;

WEEK OF

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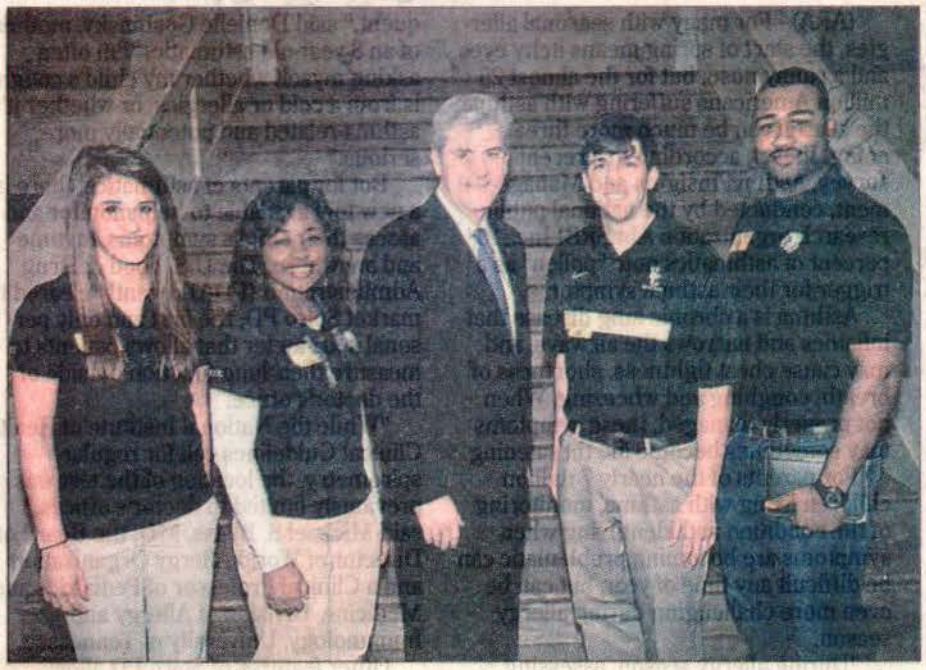
WEEK OF February 5, 2012

ECCC STUDENTS VISIT GOVERNOR, STATE REPS



Submitted photos

Gov. Phil Bryant (center) took time from his busy schedule to meet with East Central Community College students (from left) Bailee Viverette of Union and LaTia Peavy, Dustin Cullen and Antonio Nash, all of Carthage, who visited the State Capitol as part of Legislative Appreciation Day activities. The annual event is sponsored by the Mississippi Community College Association and concludes with the Legislative Appreciation Luncheon. This year's meal included catfish, gumbo and all the trimmings prepared by community college culinary students and served in the fellowship hall at Galloway United Methodist Church.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF February 5, 2012

Leake countians receive GEDs

Five Leake County residents were among approximately 35 graduates to receive high school equivalency diplomas from ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin at graduation ceremonies Dec. 29 in Huff Auditorium in Decatur.

County honorees included Courtney Ashley, Mary Hall and Darlene Spivey, all of Carthage; Regency Fortune, Gary Johnson and Gary Sandifer, all of Walnut Grove;

East Central offers ABE/GED classes at various locations in the college's five-county district.

For more information, telephone Ryan Clarke, director of adult basic education, at 601-635-6387 or, toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 387, or e-mail rclarke@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF February 5, 2012

These members of the East Central Community College Wall O' Sound Band were recently selected to participate in the 2012 Mississippi Community/Junior College All-State Band Clinic, which will be held February 9-11 at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg. Pictured are (from left) Daniel Kersgaard of Morton, Jesse Armstrong and Hannah Cade, both of West Lauderdale; and Jason Mann and Tyler Yates, both of Newton County. Thomas W. Carson serves as Director of Bands and Ed Girling is assistant director. (EC Photo)

EC reports record spring enrollment

A record 2,665 students are enrolled in spring semester classes at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced David Case, Dean of Admissions, Records and Research.

The new spring record surpasses the previous mark of 2,648 students who attended classes during the 2011 spring term.

Dr. Randall E. Lee, Vice President for Student Services, said the record enrollment is a result of the continued academic excellence and other opportunities for success provided by the College since its founding in 1928.

"East Central's continued growth is a reflection of a quality education and excellent employees who work hard at providing quality student service," said Dr. Lee, whose office coordinates the College's recruiting efforts. "It is amazing that the student body keeps growing despite a downward trend at most colleges!"

The vast majority of students enrolled at ECCC continues to come from the College's five-county district. Newton County leads the way with 552 students, followed by Neshoba, 549; Scott, 395; Winston, 289; and Leake, 271.

Case said 1,964 students are enrolled in academic courses and 701 students participate in career-technical programs of study.

For more information, contact the Office of Admissions, Records and Research at ECCC, 601-635-6206 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 206.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

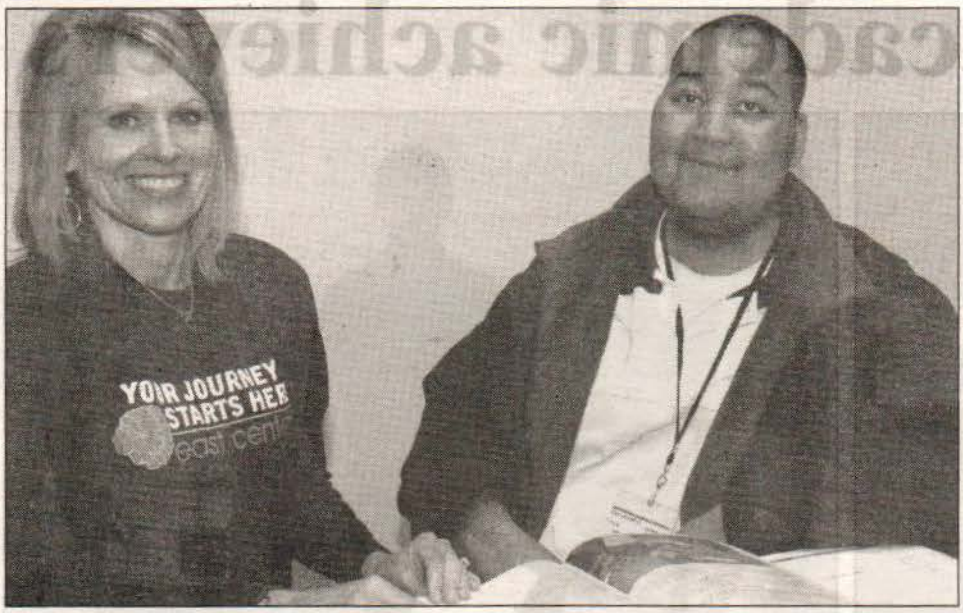
NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL 2x

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF February 19, 2012



ECCC PHOTO

JOHNSON COMPLETES ECCC REGISTRATION

Sophomore Sean Johnson (right) of Forest completed spring semester registration at East Central Community College in Decatur during Orientation/Registration activities. Also pictured is Lanette Hanna, ECCC academic counselor, who assisted Johnson in completing his class schedule. A record 2,665 students are enrolled in spring semester classes. This includes 395 students from Scott County. 1,964 students are enrolled in academic courses and 701 students participate in career-technical programs of study.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

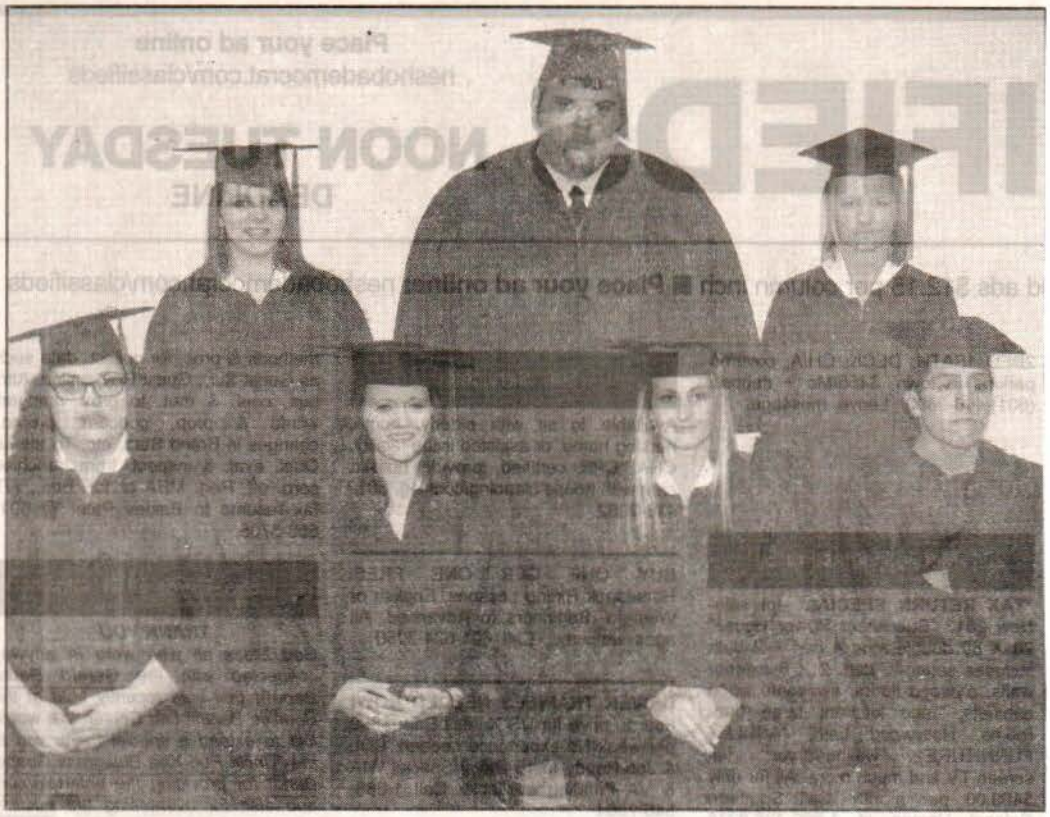
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF February 19, 2012



Receives GED diplomas

These Neshoba County residents received their GED diplomas at the semi-annual commencement program held Jan. 26 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are, front row, from left, Megan Alexander, Brittney Arledge and Lillian Fulton, all of Philadelphia; and Daniel McMillan, Choctaw; and back row, Lauren Posey and Bradley Holley, both of Union; and Christiana Winter, Stallo. ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin presented diplomas to the approximately 35 graduates who received special recognition for their accomplishment. East Central offers free Adult Basic Education/GED Preparation classes at various locations in the College's five-county district. For more information, contact Ryan Clarke, director of adult basic education, 601-635-2111 or call toll free 877-462-3222, ext. 387. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF February 19, 2012

Fowler, Moore to represent East Central CC at Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

special to The Star

English instructor Pam Fowler of Union and sophomore Ashley Moore of Carthage will represent East Central Community College at the 23rd annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

The nationally significant conference – which has captured the 2011 Governor's Award for Excellence in the Arts, an Olympic award and four statewide awards for outstanding humanities programming – begins Thursday and continues through Sunday in Natchez.

"Legends, Lore and Literature: Storytelling in the South" is this year's theme and features some of the country's most prominent writers, scholars and filmmakers. The celebration recognizes outstanding faculty members and students representing the humanities division of Mississippi's community colleges, four-year colleges and universities. Each honoree is referred to as a William Winter Scholar, in honor of the former Mississippi governor, who has been the Celebration's director of proceedings since it began in 1990.

Submitted photo

East Central Community College's Pam Fowler and Ashley Moore will be among outstanding faculty and students representing the humanities division of Mississippi's higher learning institutions at the annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

Fowler joined the ECCC faculty in August 2007. A resident of Union, she was previously employed with the Neshoba Central School District, East Mississippi Community College in Scooba, Union Separate School District and Lake High School. She has 18 years of teaching experience. She is also a certified online instructor and has taught online English classes for the past 12 years.

Her honors include her selection to Who's Who Among Teachers in American Junior Colleges while a member of the EMCC faculty.

She holds an associate of arts degree from Meridian Community College, a bachelor of arts degree from Millsaps College, and a master of science degree from Mississippi State University.

Moore, who is studying to become an English teacher, has maintained an overall 3.8 grade point average. She earned a perfect 4.0 average last fall and qualified for the President's List.

She is co-editor of the Wo-He-Lo yearbook and serves as a writer on The Tom-Tom newspaper staff. She also enjoys writing poetry. Her first poem, "Anne Boleyn," was published in the 2010 edition of American Library of Poetry.

Moore is also a member of the Wall O' Sound Marching Band, Percussion Ensemble, Phi Theta Kappa honor society, Student Education Association, Astronomy Club, Environmental Club and Concert Band.

She is a 2010 graduate of Leake Academy, where she served as senior class president, annual editor, Senior Christian president and vice president of Students Against Destructive Decisions. She was also a Beta Club member and served as senior homecoming maid.

Moore plans to continue her education at the University of Mississippi and eventually receive a master's degree in English literature.

She is the daughter of Jimmy and Judy Moore of Carthage.

MERIDIAN STAR ✓ CLARION-LEDGER

WEEK OF February 26, 2012

Rogers, Bounds selected Mr., Miss ECCC

From press reports

Tate William Rogers of Louisville and Nicole Marie Bounds of Newton were recently selected Mr. and Miss East Central Community College, respectively, by a vote of the student body.

Rogers is the son of Don and Rebecca Rogers of Louisville and is a 2010 graduate of Louisville High School.

He is a physical education major and member of the Warrior football team where he played center and was named to the MACJC All-State Second Team. He was also selected a team captain and received the Warriors' academic award.

In addition, Rogers is a member of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa international honor society and was selected for Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges. He was a recipient of the U.S. Motors Endowed Scholarship as well as ACT and Salutatorian scholarships.

After receiving his associate's degree at East Central, Rogers plans to continue his education at Mississippi State University in Starkville.

Nicole Marie Bounds and Tate Rogers

Bounds is the daughter of Jeff and Jo Beth Bounds of Newton and is a 2010 graduate of Newton County High School.

A communications/journalism major, Bounds serves as president of the Student Body Association and is a member of the Warrior Corps, President's Council, Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, The Tom-Tom newspaper staff, Wo-He-Lo yearbook staff, astronomy club and Wesley Foundation.

In addition, she was selected for Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges and was a recipient of the Sue Gunter Memorial Scholarship, Leon Eubanks Kaljyc-Peers Scholarship and an ACT scholarship.

She previously served as freshman class vice president and was elected freshman homecoming maid and freshman class favorite.

Bounds plans to complete her associate's degree at ECCC and continue her education at the University of Mississippi, where she hopes to pursue a career in sports broadcasting.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF February 26, 2012

RECEIVES FIRST CHAIR HONORS

Submitted photo

These local musicians received first chair, first band honors during the 34th annual East Central Community College Invitational Band Clinic held recently on the Decatur campus. The two-day clinic is comprised of first and second bands, which include the top musicians from the ECCC district. The clinic concludes with a concert in Huff Auditorium. Students receiving first chair, first band honors and their respective schools include (front row, from left) Conner Bell (tenor saxophone) and Krista Greenwood (baritone saxophone), both of Leake Central; Ashley Cumberland (flute), Destiny Files (contra-alto clarinet), and Zach Peden (alto saxophone), all of Neshoba Central; Nina LaBue (trumpet), Newton County; Evan Derrick (trombone), Morton; Katie Bradley (horn), Newton County; and Kayla Sudduth (baritone), Morton; and (back row, from left) Gabriel Evans (percussion), Forest; Lenethra Laster (clarinet), Morton; Chandler Smith, (mallet) and Charlie Gaddis (tuba), both of Newton County; Brittaney Walker (bass clarinet), Morton; and Zach Savage (bass guitar), Neshoba Central. Joe Moore, band director at Delta State University, served as guest clinician for the first band and Phil Martin of Lafayette High School in Lafayette, La. directed the second band. Thomas W. Carson serves as ECCC Director of Bands. Ed Girling serves as assistant director of ECCC bands.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF February 26, 2012

Honored

ECCC Sophomore Centralettes Honored

Sophomore members of the Centralettes, the dance line for the East Central Community College Wall O' Sound Band, were honored at the basketball season home finale with Copiah-Lincoln Community College Monday, Feb. 20. The talented dancers perform during halftime activities of the Lady Warrior and Warrior games. From left are Lindsey Miller, a product of Newton County High School; Raychal Reed and Ashley Arthur, both of Winston Academy; Erin Hathorne, Louisville; Ava Marie Adkins, Union; Anna Leach, Sebastopol; Loren Pullin, Union; Bailey Hartness, Winston Academy; Alyse Webb, Noxapater; and Bailee Viverette, Union. Nichol Hillman serves as Centralette coordinator/choreographer. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

ECCC announces winners

East Central Community College in Decatur recently hosted the Mississippi SkillsUSA Championships for Region III. Approximately 250 area students participated in the annual event.

All winners advance to state competition scheduled March 22-23 in Jackson. Those receiving top honors include:

Architectural Drafting: Joshua Wilcox, A.P. Fatherree Career-Technical Center, first place.

Automotive Service Technology: Lee Blackwell, first place, Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center; Aaron Betts, second, Wayne County Career and Technical Center; and Weslee Wright, third, A.P. Fatheree Career and Technical Center.

Cabinetmaking: Cade Atwood, first place, Smith County Career/Technical Center; Matthew Ferguson, second, Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center; and Skylor Hines, third, Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career-Technical Center.

Carpentry: Collin Ivey, first place, Smith County Career-Technical Center; Chris Turner, second, Noxubee County Career-Technical Center; Winston/Louisville Career and Technical Center (Tyren Jackson, Ty Carter, Chase Collins, Christian Grice, LaJordan Smith, Zakeiz Carter and Elizabeth Hurtt), first place; Winston/Louisville Career-Technical Center (Alex Haynes, Becca Rigdon, Roxanna Johnson, Christina Franklin, Ashley Mills and Taylor Flake), second; and Clarke County Career and Technology Center (Jalissa Jones, Davion Pace, Aarion Pace, Jamie Pearson, Ben Smith, Chris Verdon and Casey Harris), third.

Precision Machining: Camron Nowacki, first place, Winston/Louisville Career-Technical Center; and Tyler Runnels, second, Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center.

Prepared Speech: Sierra McKnight, first place, Choctaw County Career-Technical Center; Kalee Stennis, second, Winston/Louisville Career-Technical Center; and Drake Hughes, third, Choctaw County Career-Technical Center.

Quiz Bowl: A.P. Fatherree Career and Technical Center (Kayla Pryor, Coral Patterson, Breanna Massey, Keegan Pitts, Zack Sanford and Matthew Ethridge),

Receive Top Honors in 'Job Skills Demonstration A' Competition

Receive Top Honors in 'Job Skills Demonstration Open' Competition

Receive Top Honors in 'Job Interview' Competition

Receive Top Honors in 'Masonry' Competition

Receive Top Honors in 'Opening and Closing Ceremonies' Competition

These students from the Winston/Louisville Career-Technical Center received second place honors in the "Opening and Closing Ceremonies" competition in the Mississippi SkillsUSA Championships for Region III held at East Central Community College in Decatur.

ter; and Keifer Wolfe, third, Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center.

Job Skills Demonstration A: Adam Gable, first place, West Point Career-Technical Center; Ethan Stevenson, second, and Mitchell Boykin, third, both of Winston/Louisville Career-Technical Center.

Job Skills Demonstration Open: Dustin Dyer, first place, A.P. Fatherree Career-Technical Center; John Lipsey, second, Winston/Louisville Career-Technical Center; and Dustin Weedon, third, West Point Career-Technical Center.

Job Interview: Taylor Vaughn, first place, Choctaw County Career-Technical Center; Steneste Lee, second, A.P. Fatherree Career-Technical Center; and Jeremy Card, third, Winston/Louisville Career-Technical Center.

Masonry: Daniel Hughes and Hunter Thornton (assistant), first place, Choctaw County Career Center; Tyler Faulkner and Dusty Harris (assistant), second, Leake County Career-Technical Center; and Demarcus Carter and Joshua Matthews (assistant), third, Winston/Louisville Career and Technical Center.

Opening and Closing Ceremonies: first place; Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career -Technical Center (Raymond W. Farlow, Jr.; Eric Collins, Pierce Brekeen and Jason Hardy), second; Winston/Louisville Career-Technical Center (Jeremy Sangster, Devin Anderson, Brennan Langford, Ben Johns and Jordan Prisock), third.

Related Technical Math: Brad Palmertree, first place, Austin Bowan, second, and Denny Johnson, third, all of Choctaw County Career-Technical Center.

Residential Wiring: Devon Johnston, first place, Wayne County Career-Technical Center; and Kiara Burrage, second, Leake County Career-Technical Center.

Sheet Metal: Justin Resh, first place, Winston/Louisville Career-Technical Center.

Technical Drafting: Roman Wells, first place, Winston/Louisville Career-Technical Center.

Welding: Adam Eubanks, first place, Winston/Louisville Vocational-Technical Center; Devin Manseill, second, Wayne County Career/Technical Center; and Benton Harris, third, Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center.

Receive Top Honors in 'Precision Machining' Competition

Place Third in 'Quiz Bowl' Competition

Receives Top Honors in 'Technical Drafting' Competition

Roman Wells (left), a student at Winston/Louisville Career-Technical Center, received top honors in the "Technical Drafting" competition during the Region III held at East Central Community College.

Receives Honors in 'Prepared Speech' Competition

Receives Top Honors in 'Sheet Metal' Competition

Receive Top Honors in 'Welding' Competition

WEEK OF March 18, 2012

ECCC PHOTO

EC SOPHOMORE CHEERLEADERS HONORED

Sophomores on the East Central Community College cheerleading squad were honored at the basketball season home finale with Copiah-Lincoln Community College Monday, Feb. 20. From left are Warrior Chief mascot Lane Evans, a product of Nanih Waiya High School; Katie Reeves, Newton County; Cody Warren, Neshoba Central; Robyn Fanning, Philadelphia; Channing Bucklew and Madison Nowell, both of Winston Academy; Whitney Stokes, Neshoba Central; Jacob Johnson, Nanih Waiya; Hailey Dunavant, Newton County; and *Ashli Bell, Scott Central*. Huellen Watson serves as cheer sponsor.

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WEEK OF March 18, 2012

Class favorites

These students were recently selected freshman class favorites at East Central Community College in Decatur. Favorites and their respective high schools include, front row, from left, Kirk Griffin, Newton County; Lauren Daniels, Neshoba Central; Hannah Farmer, Newton County; and Zack McGarr, Leake Academy; and back row, Ryan Shotts, Louisville; Jordan Clearman, Neshoba Central; and Claire Giffin and Jeremy Carson, both of Newton County. Students were selected by a vote of the Student Body Association. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF March 18, 2012

Sophomore Favorites

These students were recently selected sophomore class favorites at East Central Community College in Decatur. Favorites include front row, from left LaTia Peavy, Katie Reeves, Hannah Clay, and Raychal Reed, and (back row, from left) Tyler Reeves, Jason Mann, Channing Bucklew, and Dustin Cullen. Students were selected by a vote of the Student Body Association. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF March 18, 2012

ECCC band concert March 8

The East Central Community College Band Department will hold its annual spring concert at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 8, in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus.

The evening's performance will feature both the Jazz and Concert bands. Admission is free and the public is invited to attend.

Selections by the Jazz Band include '1.21 Gigawatts' by Rich Woolworth, 'A Night in Tunisia' by Dizzy Gilespie/Michael Sweeney, 'Clocks' by Coldplay/Johnson Wasson, 'God Bless The Child' by Billie Holiday/Sammy Nestico, 'Back Burner' by Carl Strommen, and 'Birdland' by Josef Zawinul/John Higgins.

Concert Band selections include 'Fire!' by Gary Gilroy, 'Eire'by Melanie Donahue, 'By Loch and Mountain' by R.W. Smith, and 'The Stars and Stripes Forever' by John Phillip Sousa.

Thomas W. Carson serves as Director of Bands and Ed Girling is assistant director.

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WEEK OF March 25, 2012

ECCC to Host "Night of Percussion"

The East Central Community College band department will host "EC Night of Percussion" at 7 p.m. on Monday, April 16, 2012, in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. There is no charge for admission and the public is invited to attend.

The evening will begin with a performance by the ECCC Percussion Ensemble, under the direction of assistant band director Ed Girling. Also on tap are performances by guest ensembles from Leake Central, Newton County and Neshoba Central high schools. ECCC music keyboard instructor Len Bobo will perform a piano solo and the program concludes with the ECCC Mallet Ensemble.

"We look forward to an evening of great performances and are very excited to have guests from our local high school bands to participate in this special event. We invite everyone to come out and support these young musicians," Girling said.

For more information, contact Girling at 601-635-6306. The e-mail address is egirling@eccc.edu.

ECCC Offers FREE 'First Steps' Workshop In Forest

The Forest Area Chamber of Commerce along with East Central Community College's Small Business Development Center is sponsoring a workshop titled "First Steps – the Process of Starting a Small Business."

This FREE session will be held on Thursday, April 12, 2012 from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. at Gaddis Park located at 610 Tennis Lane. Ronald B. Westbrook, SBDC director, will serve as speaker.

For more information and to pre-register, contact Westbrook, Phone 601-635-6297, or Virgie Thames, SBDC assistant, Phone 601-635-6296. The email address is rwestbrook@eccc.edu or vthames@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF March 25, 2012

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

Clint Reynolds of Philadelphia, in the role of Orin, performs "Dentist" in this scene from the upcoming East Central Community College Players' production of "Little Shop of Horrors." Also pictured are Claire Griffin of Decatur and Megan Dollar of Union. The spring musical selection will be presented at 7 p.m. tonight through Saturday, in the Vickers Fine Arts Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Tickets are $10 and may be purchased by calling the College switchboard at (601) 635-6215 or 1-877-462-3222, ext. 215.

Submitted photo

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Collegians Concert Monday

The Collegians, East Central Community College's rock 'n' roll band, will present their spring semester campus concert at 8 p.m. Monday, April 9, in Huff Auditorium in Decatur. Admission is free to the popular group's performance, which features music by Carrie Underwood, Adele, Coldplay, AC/DC and many other artists. Also scheduled is a performance by this year's "guest band," which features former Collegian instrumentalists as well as director/guitarist Thomas W. Carson's three children – Chris, Jennifer and Jeremy – all former/present Collegians, in celebration of Carson's upcoming retirement.

Collegian members include (front row, from left) technicians Kirk Griffin, Danny Smith, Cole Stanley, Austin Jay (head technician), Audrey Cannon, Michael Buntyn, Gareth Driskell, Justin Collins, and D.J. Harris, (second row, from left) Chris Lyons, drum set, vocalists Jeremy Carson, Ava Marie Adkins and Bailee Viverette, Persephiney Wingo, Macey Seale, D. J. Townsend, and (back row, from left) Clint Reynolds (bass guitar), Jacob King (auxiliary percussion), Alyse Webb (keyboards), Hannah Cade (first trumpet), Georgia Donner (second trumpet), Tyler Yates (trombone), and Courtney Mackey (alto/tenor sax), (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF April 1, 2012

Cullen earns post on academic team

East Central Community College sophomore Dustin Cullen, of Carthage, was recently named to the 2012 All-Mississippi Academic Team.

The annual program recognizes scholarly achievements and leadership accomplishments of students enrolled in the state's two-year colleges.

This year's 54 honorees were recognized by the Mississippi Legislature and were guests at a luncheon at the Jackson Convention Center.

Cullen, who was named to the 2012 All-Mississippi Academic Second Team, is a President's List Scholar with a perfect 4.0 grade point average.

He was selected the College's Higher Education Appreciation Day: Working Toward Academic Excellence Student of the Year for 2012 and was honored at the special program sponsored by the Mississippi Legislature and coordinated by the Mississippi Association of Colleges.

CULLEN

He was chosen a freshman and sophomore class favorite.

He serves as president of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, Alpha Alpha Epsilon, "The Engineers," and Baptist Student Union, and is an active member of the Astronomy and Environmental clubs, BSU's "The Way" and the Wesley Foundation.

Cullen is a member of the ECCC Players and was a cast member for the 2010 fall dinner theater performance of "Smoke on the Mountain" and 2011 spring musical production, "All Shook Up."

He received numerous scholarships to attend ECCC, including Dr. Margaret Mosal, Ann Burkes PTK, Dr. Shelby L. Harris Memorial, Landon Bryan Burt Memorial, Pleas Clayton and Amanda Breazeale Blount Memorial and ACT.

Cullen was named to Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges.

He is a 2010 honor graduate of Leake Academy, where he participated in numerous clubs and activities.

He plans to major in chemical engineering at Mississippi State University.

His parents are Allen and Monica Cullen of Carthage.

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WEEK OF April 8, 2012

Participants at Community College 'Capitol Day'

Five East Central Community College students represented the school at Community College Capitol Day at the Mississippi Legislature March 20, including, from left, Jeffrey Hemphill, of Louisville; Alex Chappell, of Union; Carrie Rushing, of Decatur; Antonio Nash, of Carthage; and Rachel Ramirez, of Forest; plus faculty members Chris Harris, Marc McCool, Wanda Hurley and Christy Ferguson.

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WEEK OF April 15, 2012

These East Central Community College sophomores will display their musical talents during performances scheduled in April. Seated from left are vocalists Matthew Dempsey and Polly Vaughn, who along with guitarist Richard Braxton (not pictured) will perform at 1 p.m. Wednesday, April 18 the Vickers Fine Arts Center auditorium. Dempsey and Vaughn are voice students of ECCC music instructor Vicki Blaylock. Braxton studies with guitar instructor Barry Hause. Standing from left are tuba players Jason Mann and Daniel Kersgaard, trombonist Tyler Yates and bass guitarist Austin Jay, who will perform at 1 p.m. Wednesday, April 25 in Vickers. Mann, Kersgaard and Yates are students of brass instructor Phillip Pope. ECCC assistant band director Ed Girling is Jay's instructor. The public is invited to attend the recitals. There is no charge for admission.

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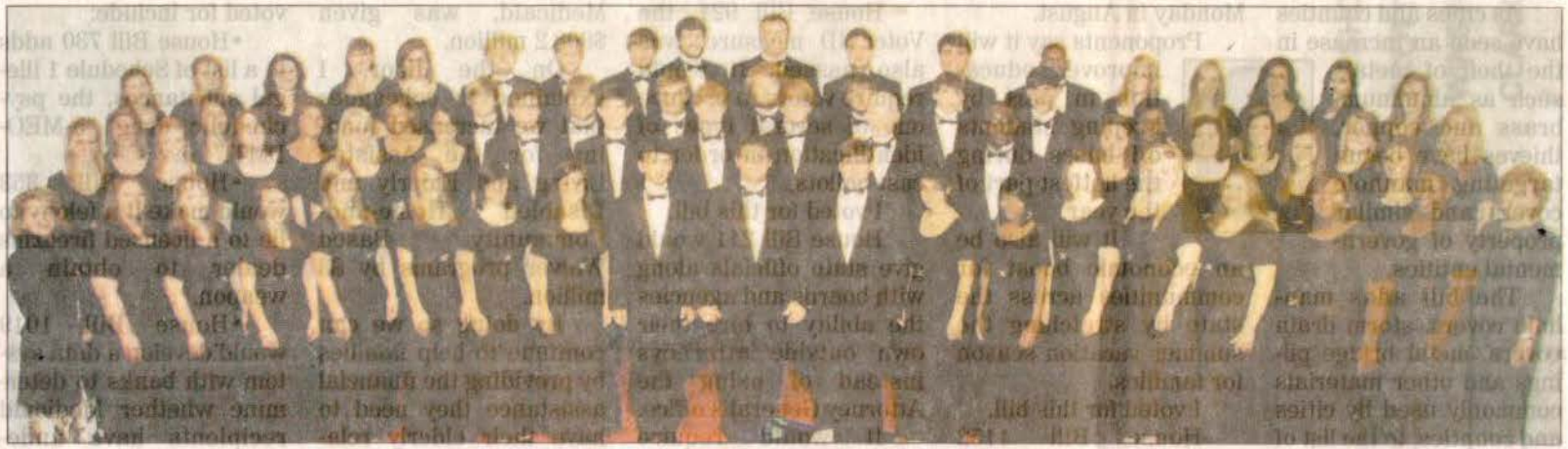
April 15, 2012

ECCC Concert Choir performs Thursday



East Central Community College's Concert Choir will present its spring semester performance Thursday, April 19 on the Decatur campus.

The group's concert begins at 7 p.m. and will be held in the Vickers Fine Arts Center auditorium. Their performance includes selections by Hogan, Copland and a "The Water is Wide" arrangement by ECCC music instructor Len Bobo, composed especially for the Concert Choir. Concert Choir members include (first row, from left) Natalie Emmons, assistant director/accompanist, Heather Roebuck and Kimberly Joiner, Whitney Myers, Polly Vaughn, Hailey Dunavant, Audrey Cannon, Jon' Marie Baucum, Shawn Windham, Jacob King, Tyler Yates, Sarah LaBue, Andrea McSwain, Robin Coker, Jessica Barnett, Forest, Ellen Gibbs, Tiffany Sims, Kierra Ealy, and Vicki Blaylock, director, (second row, from left) Katie Reeves, Alex Weir, Brittany Bobo, Kelsie Mann, Macy Seale, Kirk Griffin, Christopher Newman, Matthew Dempsey, Cayla Engle, Layna Shackleford, Lindsey Miller, and Alyse Webb, (third row, from left) Kelsey Tadlock, Melissa Manues, Kourtney Johnson, Persephiney Wingo, Tyler Gilmore, Jeremy Carson, Jessie Armstrong, Daniel Kersgaard, Jason Mann, Troy Gregory, Joshua Peoples, Oshima McKee, Erin Thornton, , and Summer Richardson and Corie Skinner, and (back row, from left) Savannah Vance, Courtney Mackey, Nickie Farmer, Ashley Swearingen, Lindsay Gibbs, Colton Hurst, Drew Smith, Austin Jay, Kirby Keith, Johnny Kight, Hunter Brooks, Puckett, Corey Jackson, Bo Foster, Tiffany Benson, Sandy Alexander, Ava Marie Adkins, Melody Mann, and Claire Griffin. (ECCC photo)

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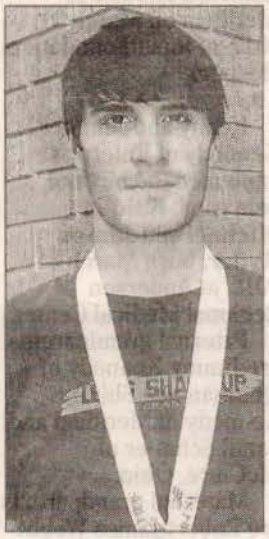
WEEK OF April 22, 2012

ECCC STUDENTS WIN SKILLSUSA HONORS

Submitted photos

These East Central Community College career-technical students received various honors at the Mississippi SkillsUSA Competition hosted by Hinds Community College. Award-winners and their respective areas of competition include: first row, from left, Lindsy Renfrow of Philadelphia, Cortney McAllister of Weir, Amanda Kelleher of Carthage and Shadairus Robinson of Newton, third place, Opening and Closing Team; and Kimberly Terrell of Toomsuba, second place, Promotional Bulletin Board Team; middle row, from left, Paige Swindle of Noxapater, Lillian Griffin of Louisville and Tamika Anderson of Decatur, third place, Opening and Closing Team; Pheanice Hamm-Brown of Lake, second place, Job Skill Demonstration; and Sarah Orr of Noxapater, second place, Promotional Bulletin Board Team; and back row, from left, Clarence Creel of Lake, third place, Automotive Service Technology; Jason Petro of Chunky, first place, Commercial Baking; Justin Collins of Forest, third place, Industrial Motor Control; Robert Doss of Noxapater, third place, CNC Turning Technology; Colton Gibbs of Forest, third place, Architectural Drafting; and Mason Shelley of Forest, second place, Residential Wiring. Also recognized were Wesley Clark of Meridian, third place, Collision Repair Technology; and Karen Townsend of Union, second place, Preschool Teacher Assistant. As a first-place winner, Petro will represent Mississippi at the National SkillsUSA Competition scheduled June 22-28 in Kansas City, Missouri. This is the third consecutive year a culinary arts technology student has qualified for the national contest.



At right: Wesley Clark of Meridian was among career-technical students at East Central Community College in Decatur, who won various honors at the Mississippi SkillsUSA Competition hosted recently by Hinds Community College. Clark placed third in the Collision Repair Technology category.

MERIDIAN STAR ✓ CLARION-LEDGER

WEEK OF April 22, 2012

ECCC Student Newspaper Staff Receives Awards

East Central Community College's student newspaper, The Tom-Tom, was among the top student newspapers in the state recognized during the 2012 O.C. McDavid Journalism Conference held March 29 at the Mississippi Children's Museum of Art in Jackson. East Central students earned 8 awards in the Mississippi Press Association's Better Newspaper Contest in the Community and Junior College Division, including two second place, five third place and one honorable mention awards in the competition.

In the Better Newspaper Competition, members of The Tom-Tom staff earned the following awards:

· A second place finish for freshman Claire Griffin of Decatur, Best Cartoons.

· The Tom-Tom staff was also honored with a second place award for Best Front Page.

· Sophomores Rachel Ramirez of Forest and Christina Nollie were recognized with a third place award for Best Editorials.

· Sophomore Polly Vaughn of Decatur was recognized with a third place award for Best Feature Photograph.

· Sophomore Justin Snow of Stallo was recognized with a third place award for Best Sports Photograph.

· The Tom-Tom staff also receiving third place honors for Best Overall Design and Miscellaneous Advertising Design.

· Sophomore Dana McKee was awarded honorable mention in the Best Feature Photo category.

The Tom-Tom is a student-led newspaper representative of the student body of East Central Community College in Decatur. The staff is led by Nollie, editor; Holli Nutt of Morton, design editor; Rachel Ramirez of Forest, opinions editor; and Meghan McIntosh of Carthage, features editor. ECCC Publications Coordinator Gennie Phillips of Forest serves as adviser.

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WEEK OF April 22, 2012

ECCC PHOTO

Members of East Central Community College's newspaper staff pictured following the 2012 O.C. McDavid Journalism Conference held March 29, 2012, at Mississippi Children's Museum of Art in Jackson. Pictured are: (from left) Christina Nollie of Carthage; Tyler Yates of Decatur; Meghan McIntosh of Carthage; Nicole Bounds and Claire Griffin, both of Decatur; Ashley Moore of Carthage; Raychal Reed of Louisville; Holli Nutt of Morton; adviser Gennie Phillips of Forest; Addreonna Seger of Newton; and Fanceey Smith of Little Rock.

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WEEK OF April 22, 2012

JOINS ECCC HONOR SOCIETY

These students from Lauderdale County were inducted into East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, during the recent annual spring semester ceremony held in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. From left are Hannah Cade, Jessie Armstrong and Tarra Gibson, all of Collinsville. Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society in American higher education with more than 2,000,000 members and 1,200 chapters located in 50 United States, U.S. territories, Canada and Germany. Biology instructor Curt Skipper and career-technical counselor Amanda Walton serve as Theta Xi advisers.

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WEEK OF April 22, 2012

ECCC Phi Theta Kappa Officers

Selected to lead East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, in 2012-13 are (first row, from left) Leighanne Wright of Lake, executive board; Axie Jones of Decatur, fundraising chairman; and Claire Griffin of Decatur, president; (second row, from left) Emily Marler of Morton and Alex Weir of Philadelphia, executive board members; Shamiski Collier of Philadelphia, secretary; Sandy Alexander of Duffee, vice president of scholarship; and Holli Nutt of Morton, public relations chair; and (third row, from left) William Meruvia of Philadelphia, vice president of fellowship; Cain Prestage of Carthage, vice president of service; and Andrew Hanna of Union, vice president of leadership. Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society in American higher education with more than 2,000,000 members and 1,200 chapters located in 50 United States, U.S. territories, Canada and Germany. Biology instructor Curt Skipper and career-technical counselor Amanda Walton serve as advisers. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF April 22, 2012

Scott Students Joining ECCC Honor Society

These students from Scott County were inducted into East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, during the annual spring semester ceremony held April 10, 2012, in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Pictured are (front row, from left) Jessica Barnett, Forest; Holli Nutt, Morton; and Amanda Williamson and Megan Everett, both of Lake; and (back row, from left) Emily Marler, Morton; Chase Gaddis, Forest; and Jacob Emmons and Devyn Hughes, both of Lake. Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society in American higher education with more 2,000,000 members and 1,000 chapters located in 50 United States, U.S. territories, Canada and Germany. Biology instructor Curt Skipper and career-technical counselor Amanda Walton serve as Theta Xi advisers. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF April 22, 2012

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ECCC Phi Theta Kappa Officers

Selected to lead East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, in 2012-13 are (first row, from left) Leighanne Wright of Lake, executive board; Axie Jones of Decatur, fundraising chairman; and Claire Griffin of Decatur, president; (second row, from left) Emily Marler of Morton and Alex Weir of Philadelphia, executive board members; Shamiski Collier of Philadelphia, secretary; Sandy Alexander of Duffee, vice president of scholarship; and Holli Nutt of Morton, public relations chair; and (third row, from left) William Meruvia of Philadelphia, vice president of fellowship; Cain Prestage of Carthage, vice president of service; and Andrew Hanna of Union, vice president of leadership. Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society in American higher education with more than 2,000,000 members and 1,200 chapters located in 50 United States, U.S. territories, Canada and Germany. Biology instructor Curt Skipper and career-technical counselor Amanda Walton serve as advisers. (EC Photo)

ECCC Honor Society

Winston Students Joining ECCC Honor Society

These students from Winston County were inducted into East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, during the annual spring semester ceremony held April 10, 2012, in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. From left are Lucas Calvert and Johnny Kight, both of Louisville. Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society in American higher education with more than 2,000,000 members and 1,200 chapters located in 50 United States, U.S. territories, Canada and Germany. Biology instructor Curt Skipper and career-technical counselor Amanda Walton serve as Theta Xi advisers. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF April 22, 2012

Phi Theta Kappa honored

East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa was recently recognized as a Five-Star Chapter, the highest level a chapter can attain. Shown with the award certificate signifying the prestigious honor are, from left, adviser Amanda Walton, career-technical counselor; Raychal Reed of Louisville, Theta Xi public relations chairman; Dustin Cullen of Carthage, Chapter president; and adviser Curt Skipper, biology instructor.

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ECCC graduation scheduled May 12 at Neshoba Coliseum

More than 410 graduates are scheduled to receive diplomas Saturday, May 12, 2012, when East Central Community College holds its 83nd Commencement beginning at 11 a.m. in the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia.

Included in the total are those who completed degree requirements following the 2011 summer and fall terms, according to Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, Vice President for Instruction.

Those participating in the program include graduating sophomores Raychal Reed of Louisville, who will give the invocation; LaTia Peavy of Carthage, commencement speaker; and Dustin Cullen of Carthage, benediction. Polly Vaughn of Decatur and Matthew Dempsey of Louisville will present the musical selection "For Good."

Dr. Sparkman will present candidates for graduation and College President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin will award degrees and certificates to the following:

Area CANDIDATES FOR MAY GRADUATION

KOSCIUSKO: Chaunderial K. Bell and Genae Rochelle Tew;

LOUISVILLE: Trent Lee Boswell, Channing Bucklew, Brittany Leigh Burton, Bobby Demetrics Carter, Linda Christian, Jocelyn LaShara Coleman, Matthew R. Dempsey, Brittany Duncan, Charles Graham, Jr., Bonnie Kathryn Hailey, Fred Hampton, Bailey Marie Hartness, Emily Hathorn, Erin Hathorn, Morgan Tabor Hillhouse, Hillary E. Hobby, Samatha Holdiness, Evan Humphries, Jacob Johnson, Kayely Faye Kinard, Cortney K. Miller, Cottrell Miller , Deaerious Miller, Madison Claire Nowell, Timothy S. Palmer, Kyrstin Phillips, Alexis Nikole Prisock, Raychal Ann Reed, Brittany Renee Rigdon, Allison Renee Rogers, Tate Rogers, Ronald Earl Spears, Christopher Tatum, Jr., Brock Kendalll Ward, Synethia J. Warren and Brittany Young;

MCCOOL: Deonta Hawthorne, Metreck Juwan Ball and Milton J. Roach;

NOXAPATER: Hope Batts-Young, Corsica J. Carter, Vickie Collins, Robert Doss, Jr., Brody Lamar Horne, Alexandria Prezley Thomas, Alyse Nicole Webb and Nathan Lamar Wells;

PHILADELPHIA: Chrissa C. Bennett, Brittany Nicole Boatner, Hannah Kirby Case, Nancy Renee Coats, Ruben Cruz, Vickye Jean Davis, Sheldon D. Donald, Kathryn Nichole Dowdy, Colton Mitchell Eakes, Christopher Lewis Evans, Melissa Nannette Farmer, Jessie Lee Flake, Shelby Burnside Griffin, Justin Hundley, Keylon Johnson, Byron Kasey Johnson, Truitt James Kilgore, Valerie Nicole Lillis, Sandra Darlene Lyon, Rachel Y. McClendon, Jessica Paige McDonald, Tanner McGee, Michael Colby McLain, Audrey Denise Moody, Comisha Moore, Felicia Rene Patrick, Tegan Renee Nicholson Pettis, Jean M. Pfeifer, Sequita D. Phillips, Kristy Maree Posey, Sophia Ferbee-Riley, George Terry Sciple, II, Lakeisha Stafford, Whitney Stokes, Wanoka L. Thomas, Madison Upshaw, Pollyanna Sockey Willis and Carollyn Young;

PRESTON: Shandreka Hunt, Matthew G. Mitchell and Kitty Lynette Burnham Stewart;

STURGIS: Rachel Sharp;

WEIR: Derick Demond Potts.

Augsut 2011

LOUISVILLE: Lori Marie Vernon Young, Kristi M. Fulcher, Stephanie S. Owens, Hynesha Rashasa Pernell, Mallory Kate Sloan and James Whitmire Holdiness;

NOXAPATER: Rose Mary Eichelberger;

PHILADELPHIA: Willard Bacon, Jr., Olivia Jackson, Stephanie Anne Peters, Marvin Darryl Young and Joshua L. Yeager;

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ____

MERIDIAN STAR ____

WEEK OF May 6, 2012

THE MERIDIAN STAR
Sunday, May 6, 2012

ECCC PTK CHAPTER HONORED

Submitted photo

East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa was recently recognized as a Five-Star Chapter, the highest level a chapter can attain. Shown with the award certificate signifying the prestigious honor are, from left, Amanda Walton (advisor), career-technical counselor; Raychal Reed of Louisville, Theta Xi public relations chairman; Dustin Cullen of Carthage, chapter president; and Curt Skipper (advisor), biology instructor. Phi Theta Kappa is the international honor society for two-year colleges with more than 1,200 chapters located in the United States, U.S. territories, Canada and Germany.

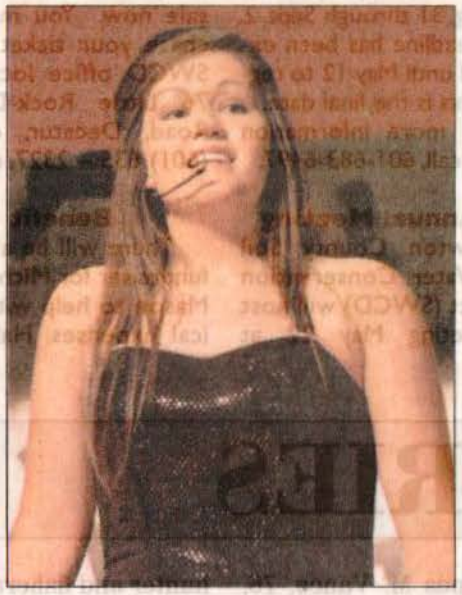
APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____
NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____
SPIRIT OF MORTON _____
MERIDIAN STAR ✓
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____
CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF May 14, 2012

Ac'cents put on quite a show

Sandy Alexander



Claire Griffin

Kourtney Johnson

Tadarin (Bo) Foster

The Ac'cents, East Central Community College's Show Choir, put on quite a show during their spring semester concert Thursday in the Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium. The concert featured music by artists such as The Jacksons, Lady Antebellum, Katy Perry, The Beatles, Madonna, Sting, Beyonce and Sara Bareilles. photos by Bill Graham/ The Appeal

APPEARED IN
CARTHAGINIA
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MERIDIAN STA

WEEK OF May 16, 2012

East Central Community College recently announced inductees to the 2012 Hall of Fame, the highest honor a student can receive at the College. They included (seated, from left) Raychal Reed of Louisville, Bailee Viverette of Union and Alyse Webb of Noxapater; and (standing, from left) Tyler Yates of Decatur, Dustin Cullen of Carthage and Matthew Dempsey of Louisville.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF May 16, 2012

ECCC presents Spring Sports Awards

Numerous student-athletes received honors at the 2012 Spring Sports Awards Banquet held May 1 on the Decatur campus.

Awards were presented by ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin and head coaches Neal Holliman (baseball), Maurice Bowie (men's basketball), Bill Smith (women's basketball), Chris Clark (golf), Scott Hill (softball), Dianne O'Neill (men's and women's tennis) and Huellen Watson (cheerleading).

Award-winners and their respective sports included the following:

Baseball – Evan Humphries of Louisville, Scholar Athlete;

Warrior Basketball – Bobby Wrench of Columbus, Most Improved; Keivondre Watford of Tuscaloosa (Ala) Central, Most Valuable Defensive Player; Hakeem Wesley of Newton County, Most Valuable Offensive Player; LaVadius Lyles of Forest, Scholar Athlete; T.J. Leatherwood of Northridge High School, Tuscaloosa, Ala., Hustle Award; and Jimmie Broomfield of Scott Central, Warrior Award;

Lady Warrior Basketball – Kelcia Bufkin of Scott Central, Hustle Award; Jakela Jones of West Jones, Most Improved; Inessa Adams of Horn Lake, Scholar Athlete; Alli Kirby of Edinburg, Warrior Award; Ja'Monica Horton of Walter E. Stebbins High School in Dayton, Ohio, Most Valuable Offensive Player and two-time recipient of All-Region 23 and first team MACJC All-State honors; and Xzandra Dowd of Neville High School in Monroe, La., Most Valuable Defensive Player;

Fast-Pitch Softball – Kelsi Watson of Smithville, Most Valuable Defensive Player and Scholar Athlete; Haelie Allen of Leake Academy, Lady Warrior Award; Lajoya Griffin of Philadelphia, Base Runner Award; A.J. Peeler of Neshoba Central, Most Valuable Offensive Player; Mary Sanders of Adams Christian Academy in Natchez, Most Improved; Tenna Patterson of Lexington (Ala.) High School, Most Valuable Player and Most Valuable Pitcher; Brittany Pounders of Southeast Lauderdale, Top Slugger; and Haylee Roberts of Enterprise, Team Captain Award;

Lady Warrior Tennis – Lauren Lurk, Co-Captain Award and Most Improved Player, Kelsey Tadlock, Warrior Award and Cassie Munn, Most Valuable Player, Co-Captain and Scholar Athlete awards, all of Newton County High School;

Warrior Tennis – Andrew Hanna of Newton County Academy, Warrior Award; Chris Mays of Louisville, Most Improved Player; Levi French of Union, Most Valuable Player; Blake Cochran of Newton County, Captain Award; and Hunter Stovall of Philadelphia, Academic Award; and

Cheerleading – Ashli Bell of Scott Central, Warrior Award; Madison Nowell of Winston Academy, Academic Award; Hailey Dunavant of Newton County, Captain Award; Lane Evans of Nanih Waiya, Mascot Award; Whitney Stokes of Neshoba Central, Coach's Award; and Jacob Johnson of Nanih Waiya, Captain Award.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

ECCC graduation scheduled

More than 410 graduates are scheduled to receive diplomas Saturday, May 12, when East Central Community College holds its 83rd Commencement beginning at 11 a.m. in the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia.

Included in the total are those who completed degree requirements following the 2011 summer and fall terms, according to Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, Vice President for Instruction.

Those participating in the program include graduating sophomores Raychal Reed of Louisville, who will give the invocation; LaTia Peavy of Carthage, commencement speaker; and Dustin Cullen of Carthage, benediction. Polly Vaughn of Decatur and Matthew Dempsey of Louisville will present the musical selection "For Good."

Dr. Sparkman will present candidates for graduation and College President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin will award degrees and certificates to the following Leake County students:

Lindsey Renee Adams, Lashondra Dantrice Brown, Samantha Ann Coleman, Dustin Lamar Cullen, Haley Randall Cumberland, Lauren Michelle Demeranville, Jacob Moray Frasier, Kimberly LaDalya Johnson, Jeremy Todd Johnson, Keri Martin, Erin Brooke Moore, Ashley Elizabeth Moore, Antonio D. Nash, Tyler Jordan Neal,

Christina LeeAnna Nollie, LaTia DeShae Peavy, Julie Michelle Shepard, Danny Carl Smith, Jr., April Thompson, Joyce Leanne White, Augustus C. Wilcher Gerald Willis, Jr., Karli Danielle Withers and Marla Denise Chamblee, all of Carthage;

Eli Isadore Tubby, Choctaw; Callie Brooke Allen and Layna Michelle Phillips, both of Lena; Anna Marie Leach, Sebastopol; Adrian Canady, Derron Gates, Krystle Shanta Hardy and Brian A. Yates, Walnut Grove.

August 2011 graduates include DeAnna Ben Hernandez, Sonya Jones-Jenkins, Gerald Mann and Laure
Carthage;
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a.m., with entert
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motorcycle ride (

APPEARED IN:
CARTHAGINIAN ✓
NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL
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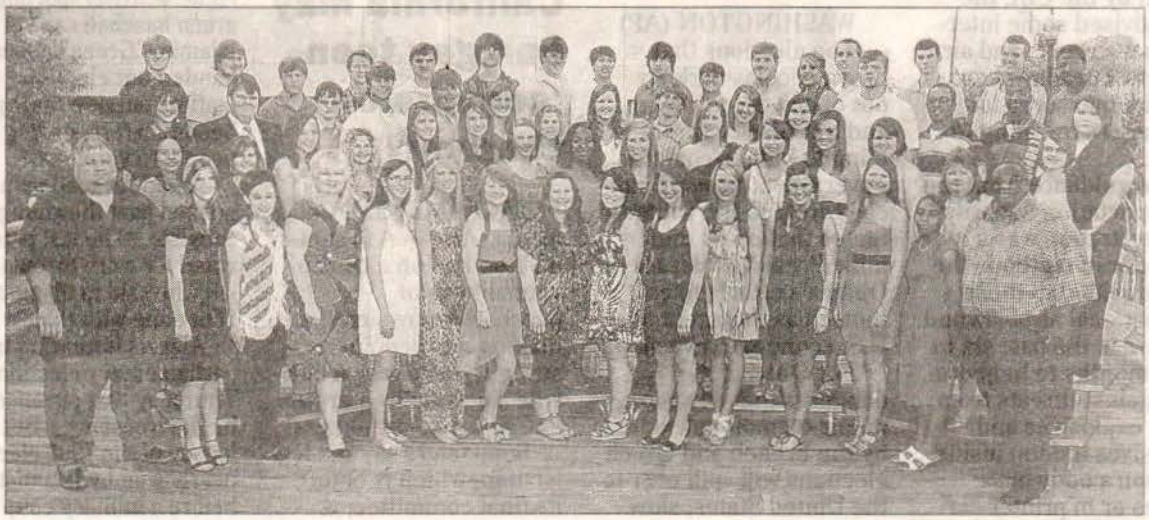
WEEK OF May 16, 2012

ECCC PHI THETA KAPPA



Submitted photo

These East Central Community College students were inducted into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year students, during the annual spring semester ceremony held on the Decatur campus. New members of the prestigious organization and their respective hometowns include: (first row, from left) Ed Boudreaux, Decatur; Bobbi Schwebel, Philadelphia; Megan Everett, Lake; Jessica Barnett, Forest; Olivia Potter, Madison; Shelby Parkman, Raleigh; Amanda Williamson, Lake; Leighanne Wright, Little Rock; Axie Jones, Decatur; Holli Nutt, Morton; Lauren Daniels, Philadelphia; Hannah Farmer, Newton; Lacie Sessums, Lena; Brittany Smith, Decatur; and Charles E. Curry Jr., Newton; (second row, from left) Pheanice Hamm-Brown, Lake; Sara Schwebel, Philadelphia; Tarra Gibson and Hannah Cade, both of Collinsville; Madeline Potter, Flora; Emily Marler, Morton; Alex Weir, Philadelphia; Shamiski Collier, Philadelphia; Sandy Alexander, Duffee; Alex Stuart and Ally Loper, both of Philadelphia; Meghan Johnson, Lena; Carrie McLemore, Philadelphia; Debbie Williams, Newton; and Tiffany Smith and Holly Jones, both of Union; (third row, from left) Devyn Hughes, Lake; Tanner Fortenberry, Union; Jacob Emmons, Lake; Matthew Brown, Decatur; Jacob Wiggs and Chesney Spence, both of Philadelphia; Shelby Johnston, Lena; Claire Griffin, Decatur; Taylor Potter, Bentonia; Allison Perry and Brittany Boatner, both of Philadelphia; Johnny Kight, Louisville; and James Savage, Jr. and Terrance Steele, both of Philadelphia; and (fourth row, from left) Tyler Gilmore, Sebastopol; Jeremy Carson and Tyler Reeves, both of Decatur; Chase Gaddis, Forest; Jessie Armstrong, Collinsville; Julien Gillis, Hickory; Darin Hillman, Conehatta; William Meruvia, Philadelphia; Cain Prestage, Carthage; Andrew Hanna, Union; Lucas Calvert, Louisville; Jordan Clearman, Dylan Sparnecht and Ethan Pendergrass, all of Philadelphia; Blake Cochran, Hickory; and Kalik May, Northport, Ala. Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society in American higher education with more than 2,000,000 members and 1,200 chapters located in 50 United States, U.S. territories, Canada and Germany. Biology instructor Curt Skipper and career-technical counselor Amanda Walton serve as Theta Xi advisors.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF May 13, 2012

Career awards

ECCC Nursing Instructors Honored

These nursing instructors at East Central Community College in Decatur were recently honored in recognition of National Nurses Week. The annual observance is held from May 6, also known as National Nurses Day, through May 12, the birthday of Florence Nightingale, recognized as the founder of modern nursing. Pictured are (seated from left) Christy Savell, Lisa Gorgas, Sherri Cantey, Evadna Lyons, Lori Luke and Martie Vaughn, all Associate Degree Nursing instructors; and (standing from left) Theresa Cole, Alicia Lundstrom and Melanie Pinter, all Practical Nursing instructors; ADN instructors Denita Thomas and Tina McDyess; and Dr. Betsy Mann, dean of healthcare education. Not pictured is ADN instructor Paula Russum of Pulaski. (EC Photo)

Transfers

ECCC Students Receive MUW Scholarships

East Central Community College graduating sophomores (from left) Brittany Boatner of Philadelphia and Alyse Webb of Noxapater received transfer scholarships to Mississippi University for Women, which were presented during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 3 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL x2

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF May 13, 2012

Cheer awards

ECCC Cheerleader Award Winners

These members of the 2011-12 East Central Community College cheerleading squad received honors at the Spring Sports Banquet held May 1 on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are Ashli Bell, a product of Scott Central High School, Warrior Award; Madison Nowell of Winston Academy, Academic Award; and Hailey Dunavant of Newton County, Captain Award. Standing from left are Jacob Johnson of Nanih Waiya, Captain Award; and Whitney Stokes of Neshoba Central, Coach's Award. Not pictured is Lane Evans of Nanih Waiya, Macot Award. ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin and cheer sponsor Huellen Watson presented awards. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF May 13, 2012

ECCC awards

These students were among those receiving Alumni Memorial awards during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 3, 2012, in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Students and their respective awards include (front row, from left) Nikki Cumberland of Decatur, Arno Vincent Award for Academic Excellence in Athletics; Miguel Medrano of Gonzales, La., Billy Wayne Baucum Award for Secondary Education; Megan Dollar of Union, Ruth Carr-Vincent Award for Academic Excellence in Nontraditional Education; Tarra Gibson of Bailey, Opal McMullan Dickerson Elementary Education Award; Ashley Moore of Carthage, Alatha Chaney English Award; James Cumberland of Union, W.A. Coursey, Jr., Engineering; Dustin Cullen of Carthage, Danny Ray Killens Engineering; and Cindy Burnside of Decatur, Sara Carr Deaton Business Technology; and (back row, from left) Kyle Henson of Weir, Sue Yarbrough Fulgham Speech Award; Shelby Powell of Meridian, Jack B. Mayo Phi Theta Kappa Award; Frederick Davis of Jackson, William S. Giffin Men's Intramural; Truitt Kilgore of Philadelphia, Homer F. Hunter Award For Athletic Managers; Tate Rogers of Louisville, Andrew F. Webb Football Award; Jackson Therrien of Newton, Howard Sessums Men's Basketball Award; and Rachel Sharp of Sturgis, Dr. Edwin Miller Medical Services Award. Not pictured is Inessa Adams of Horn Lake, Earline Wood Memorial Basketball Award. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

'Set goals and believe in yourself' ECCC commencement speaker tells graduates

Goal setting and believing in one's self was the message delivered by East Central Community College graduating sophomore LaTia Peavy of Carthage, who was the featured speaker at the College's 83rd Commencement held Saturday, May 12, 2012, at the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia.

Peavy, a Dean's List scholar and pre-med major recently selected to receive a Mississippi Rural Physicians Scholarship, was among the approximately 410 graduates who were presented diplomas by retiring ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

Peavy, who was also a member of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges and served as 2011 Homecoming Queen, began her remarks by asking the following question: "Is it not such a great feeling to know that all of our hard work and dedication put into long days of lectures and long nights of study was not in vain?"

The Carthage High School graduate said reaching the graduation milestone "was not easy…but we were determined and stayed focus; however, we cannot let this be the end. We must continue to strive toward excellence in all our future endeavors."

Peavy stressed the importance of goal-setting and related a story about a young man who purchased a bus ticket in hopes of finding a job away from his hometown.

When asked the location of his destination, he replied to the ticket clerk, "I don't know; just give me a ticket to somewhere."

"The moral of the story," Peavy continued, "is that if you do not know where you are going, you cannot take the steps necessary to get there."

Peavy said a mistake many people make is that they fail to determine what they really want to accomplish in life and outline a plan to do so.

"I feel compelled to stress the importance of setting goals, which leads me to point out

Students participating on the program for East Central Community College's 83rd commencement included graduating sophomores (pictured, from left) Matthew Dempsey of Louisville and Polly Vaughn of Decatur, who presented the musical selection "For Good;" LaTia Peavy of Carthage, commencement speaker; Raychal Reed of Louisville, who gave the invocation; and Dustin Cullen of Carthage, benediction. (EC Photo)

some basic questions many of us have been presented in our lives….such as 'Who?' 'What?' 'When?' 'Where?' 'Why?' and 'How?'"

Regarding the "Who" question, Peavy remarked, "Who we are leads to what we want to accomplish in our lives. As the old saying goes, 'If you fail to plan, then you plan to fail.' Therefore, we must strive to accomplish more, even when our goals are reached."

She said "What?" is the "trickiest" of the questions. "It is important to look toward the future instead of focusing wholly on what we will do today," she explained.

Peavy said "When?" "is now….everything we do now determines our future success. Procrastination usually leads to more work, so being aware of When we plan to succeed will keep us balanced and even lighten our loads."

"The 'Where?'" Peavy said, "will be determined by what we have done up to this point to prepare us for events to come. Where will we end? Where must we go to achieve? Wherever we go, it is never too far away to always keep our homes in our hearts and remember the lessons we have learned from our families, not excluding our East Central family."

Peavy remarked the "Why?" question "is one we will never stop asking. This will only keep us growing. We may never know exactly why we work toward certain goals until we have actually reached them and gained a sense of pride in ourselves."

As to "How?" Peavy stated, "How do we want to achieve? Only we can answer this question. We should always believe in ourselves and remember that with determination no goal is unattainable."

"Now that we have these questions in mind," Peavy said, "we should work to incorporate them into our lives. After we leave here, we should take time to consider what goals we have set in our lives…and ask ourselves if we worked our hardest to reach them? And, what goals have we set for the future?"

She concluded her remarks with the following statement:

"If we, the East Central Community College Class of 2012, believe in ourselves and are willing to put forth the effort to set and achieve goals, we can certainly have a positive effect on our families, communities, and the rest of the world, for nothing we do can change the past….but everything we do changes the future."

In addition to Peavy, other graduating sophomores who participated in the commencement program were Raychal Reed of Louisville, invocation; Dustin Cullen of Carthage, benediction; and Polly Vaughn of Decatur and Matthew Dempsey of Louisville, who performed a musical selection, "For Good."

Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, retiring Vice President for Instruction, presented candidates for graduation to Dr. Sutphin.

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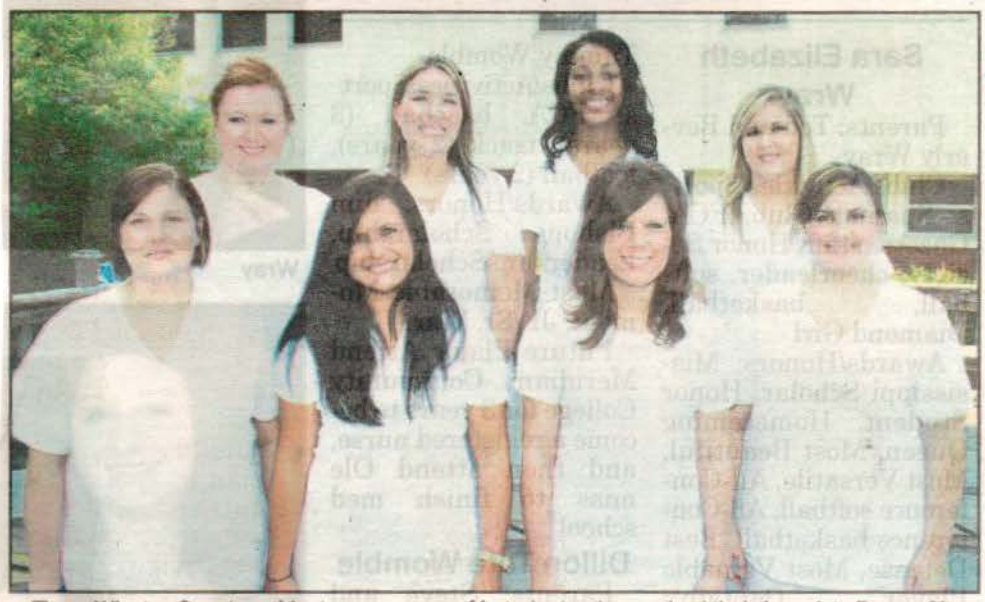
EDGER

East Central Community College graduating sophomore LaTia Peavy of Carthage addressed classmates at the College's 83rd Commencement held Saturday, May 12, at the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia. Peavy stressed the importance of setting goals and believing in one's self during her remarks.

Special music at East Central Community College's 83rd Commencement was provided by graduating sophomores Matthew Dempsey, left, of Louisville and Polly Vaughn of Decatur, who performed a vocal selection, "For Good." (EC Photo)

WEEK OF May 13, 2012

ECCC ADN students receive nursing pins



These Winston County residents were among 41 students who received their Associate Degree Nursing pins at East Central Community College during a special ceremony held Friday, May 4, 2012, in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Graduates and their respective hometowns include (front row, from left) Vickie Collins, Noxapater; and Brittany Young, Kadie Hailey and Allison Rogers, all of Louisville; and (back row, from left) Alexis Prisock, Louisville; Kyrstin Phillips, Nanih Waiya; Michaela Lee, Nanih Waiya; and Samantha Holdiness, Louisville.

Forty-one students completed requirements for the Associate Degree Nursing Program at East Central Community College and received their nursing pins during a special ceremony held Friday, May 4, 2012, in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus.

Jessie Flake of Philadelphia, "ADN Student of the Year," was the speaker and Allison Rogers of Louisville presented a vocal selection. Instructor Paula Russum presented pins to the graduates. The invocation and benediction were given by Jean Pfeifer of Philadelphia and Rachel Ramirez of Forest, respectively.

Those receiving pins and their respective hometowns include Tracey Giles, Brandon; Brooke Allen, Samantha Coleman, Keri Martin and Julie Shepard, all of Carthage; Yolanda Jones and Millicent Williams, both of Clinton; Audrey Haralson, Conehatta; Kimberly Amerson, Decatur; Rebekah Alawine, Florence; Megan Boswell, Rachel Ramirez and Suzanne Thornton, all of Forest; Alantha Hunley, Jackson; Rachel Smith, Lake; Ashley Walker, Little Rock; Kadie Hailey, Samantha Holdiness, Alexis Prisock, Allison Rogers and Brittany Young, all of Louisville; Amanda Huitt and Morgan Strickland, both of Meridian; Renee Johnson and Beau Rhinewalt, both of Morton; Michaela Lee and Kyrstin Phillips, both of Nanih Waiya; Katie Thompson, Newton; Vickie Collins, Noxapater; Jessie Flake, Valerie Lillis, Jessica McDonald, Jean Pfeifer and George Sciple, all of Philadelphia; Kitty Stewart, Preston; Brandon Thompson and Haley Vance, both of Sebastopol; Richara Williamson, Sylvarena; and Jodie Roberts, Kristen Sistrunk and Karen Smith, all of Union.

Allison Rogers of Louisville presented the vocal selected during the annual ECCC Associate Degree Nursing Pinning Ceremony

APPEARED

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WEEK OF May 13, 2012

These Newton County residents were among 41 students who received their Associate Degree Nursing pins at East Central Community College May 4. Graduates and their respective hometowns include (front row, from left) Jodie Roberts, Union; Audrey Haralson, Conehatta; and Katie Thompson, Newton; and (back row, from left) Kristen Sistrunk, Union; Ashley Walker, Little Rock; Kimberly Amerson, Decatur; and Karen Smith, Union.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF May 13, 2012

East Central Community College graduate LaTia Peavy of Carthage addresses classmates at the college's commencement Saturday at the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia.

Special music at East Central Community College's commencement was provided by graduates Matthew Dempsey (left) of Louisville and Polly Vaughn of Decatur.

Submitted Photos/Special to The Clarion-Ledger

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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WEEK OF May 20, 2012

CHS grad speaks at ECCC program

Goal setting and believing in one's self was the message delivered by East Central Community College graduating sophomore LaTia Peavy of Carthage, featured speaker at the college's 83rd commencement.

Peavy was a Dean's List scholar and pre-med major recently selected to receive a Mississippi Rural Physicians Scholarship

She was among approximately 410 graduates presented diplomas by ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin in ceremonies held Saturday, May 12, at the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia.

Peavy a member of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa and 2011 Homecoming Queen, began her remarks by asking, "Is it not such a great feeling to know that all of our hard work and dedication put into long days of lectures and long nights of study was not in vain?"

PEAVY

"After we leave here, we should take time to consider what goals we have set in our lives...and ask ourselves if we worked our hardest to reach them? And, what goals have we set for the future?"

"If we, the East Central Community College Class of 2012," she concluded, "believe in ourselves and are willing to put forth the effort to set and achieve goals, we can certainly have a positive effect on our families, communities, and the rest of the world, for nothing we do can change the past....but everything we do changes the future."

In addition to Peavy, other graduating sophomores who participated in the commencement program were Dustin Cullen of Carthage, benediction; Raychal Reed of Louisville, invocation; and Polly Vaughn of Decatur and Matthew Dempsey of Louisville, who performed a musical selection, "For Good."

APPEARED IN:

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF May 20, 2012

Poetry presenter

Burton Presents Children's Story at ECCC Coffeehouse

Brittany Burton of Louisville is shown presenting a children's story "Dear God" during the annual Poetry Coffeehouse held May 7, 2012, in Thrash Auditorium on the East Central Community College campus in Decatur. The event showcases the many talented students in Carol Shackelford's creative writing class. The student presentations are held in lieu of a final exam. Burton also presented a narrative essay titled "My Inspiration" and a comedic monologue titled "A Typical Night in Physical Science Class" during the special program. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF May 20, 2012

RAMIREZ RECEIVES ECCC DIPLOMA

Rachel Ramirez (right) of Forest is shown receiving her East Central Community College diploma from ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin. Ramirez was among the approximately 410 candidates for graduation at the College's 83rd Commencement, which was held at the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia. Ramirez completed the Associate Degree Nursing program was recognized with other nursing students at the annual ADN Pinning Ceremony held Friday, May 5, in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus.

THOMPSON PRESENTED ECCC DIPLOMA

Brandon Thompson (right) of Sebastopol was among the approximately 410 candidates for graduation at East Central Community College in Decatur. Thompson is shown receiving her diploma from ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin at the College's 83rd Commencement held Saturday, May 12, at the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia. Thompson completed the Associate Degree nursing program and was recognized with other nursing students at the annual ADN Pinning Ceremony held May Friday, May 5, in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus.

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF May 20, 2012

ECCC awards diplomas to grads

SUBMITTED TO THE TIMES

PHILADELPHIA — More than 410 graduates received diplomas Saturday, May 12, when East Central Community College held its 83rd commencement beginning at 11 a.m. in the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia.

Included in the total are those who completed degree requirements following the 2011 summer and fall terms, according to Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, Vice President for Instruction.

Those participating in the program include graduating sophomores Raychal Reed of Louisville, who gave the invocation; LaTia Peavy of Carthage, commencement speaker; and Dustin Cullen of Carthage, benediction. Polly Vaughn of Decatur and Matthew Dempsey of Louisville presented the musical selection "For Good."

Dr. Sparkman presented candidates for graduation and college President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin awarded degrees and certificates to the following students from the Scott County area and neighboring communities:

May Graduates

FOREST: Cody Adcox, Edgar Agustin Alvarez, Donna Banks, Penelope Bates, Ashli Briana Bell, Megan Elizabeth Boswell, Kelcia Bufkin, Justin B. Cabe, Carmen Marenda Coleman, Justin Earl Collins, Freniben Desai, Colton Wayne Gibbs, Lindsay Alane Gibbs, Anita Hatcher-Williams, Rosalia Hernandez Chim, Darnell A. Hughes, Sharonda N. James, Sean Gregory Johnson, Juanita Jones, Ryan Dion McClendon, Clarissa B. Murrell, Trinisha VaShawn Murrell, Kristen Grace Nettles, Rachel M. Ramirez, Titania Robinson, Larissa Tierra Ryans, Mason G. Shelley, Rachel D. Smith, Keli Suzanne Thornton, Randy Keith Thrash II, Phillip Larkin Vance and Amanda Marie Williamson.

LAKE: Josh Bennett, Dorothy D. Chapman, Shawna M. Clark, Delvegas Gray, Sharon D. Hunt, Jacoquyn Kentrel Rasco and Sheryl J. Riley.

LAWRENCE: Marcus E. Gardner, Lauren Elizabeh Lurk and Lynford Seibel;

LENA: Callie Brooke Allen and Layna Michelle Phillips.

MORTON: Jean Latham Harvey, William Maxwell Harvey, Kristi Shea Hunter, Myrtle Renee Johnson, Taylor Melissa Lynch, Patice Yentel Moore, Beau S. Rhinewalt and Lee Taylor;

SEBASTOPOL: Anna Marie Leach;

WALNUT GROVE: Adrian Canady, Derron Gates, Krystle Shanta Hardy and Brian A. Yates; and

August 2011 Graduates

FOREST: Mandy Gail Revette and Suzanne Settlemire.

LAKE: Melissa Simmons and Andreal Channel Ross.

MORTON: Giselle Scarleth Wash, Morgan Craig, Leslie Ann Crawford, Shannon L. Gallaspy, Justin Michael Little and Olivia Irene Capetillo.

WALNUT GROVE: Latoria Holifield and Lance Mark Jones.

December 2011 Graduates

FOREST: Darlene Robin Hughes, Kimberly Noblin, Andreä LaShun Slaughter, Leslie Ellen Theriot and Bobby James Thigpen.

LAKE: Joyce Amis.

MORTON: Sandra Lynn Phillips.

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WEEK OF May 20, 2012

RECEIVES ECCC ADN PINS

Submitted photo

These East Central Community College students received their Associate Degree Nursing pins during a recent special ceremony in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Graduates and their respective hometowns include: (front row, from left) Jessica McDonald and Jean Pfeifer, both of Philadelphia; Audrey Haralson, Conehatta; Jodie Roberts, Union; Allison Rogers, Louisville; Megan Boswell, Forest; Renee Johnson, Morton; Brooke Allen, Carthage; and Kitty Stewart, Preston; (second row, from left) Brittany Young and Kadie Hailey, both of Louisville; Kristen Sistrunk, Union; Ashley Walker, Little Rock; Suzanne Thornton, Forest; Morgan Strickland, Meridian; Jessie Flake, Philadelphia; Amanda Huitt, Meridian; Samantha Holdiness, Louisville; Vickie Collins, Noxapater; and Katie Thompson, Newton; (third row, from left) Kimberly Amerson, Decatur; Tracey Giles, Brandon; Rebekah Alawine, Florence; Alexis Prisock, Louisville; Samantha Coleman and Julie Shepard, both of Carthage; Karen Smith, Union; Rachel Smith, Lake; Richara Williamson, Sylvarena; Yolanda Jones, Clinton; and Rachel Ramirez, Forest; and (back row, from left) Brandon Thompson, Sebastopol; Valerie Lillis, Philadelphia; Michaela Lee and Kyrstin Phillips, both of Nanih Waiya; Keri Martin, Carthage; Beau Rhinewalt, Morton; George Sciple, Philadelphia; Haley Vance, Sebastopol; Millicent Williams, Clinton; and Alantha Hunley, Jackson. Graduates also received diplomas during the college's recent commencement ceremonies in the Neshoba County Coliseum. Dr. Betsy Mann serves as Dean of Healthcare Education.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF May 20, 2012

Orientation

East Central Community College associate degree nursing instructor Denita Thomas (left) assists Hayden Stokes (center), a graduate of Winston Academy, and Neshoba Central High School graduate Hailey Smith with their fall class schedules during Dual Credit Enrollment/Orientation held Friday, May 4, 2012, on the Decatur campus. The special registration was held for students who are currently enrolled in courses at the College while completing their senior year of high school. In addition to receiving their approved class schedules, students who attend orientation can reserve or check on the status of their dormitory rooms, and have photographs made for identification cards and the College yearbook. Additional orientation/registration sessions will be held Saturday, June 2; Friday, June 22; Friday, July 13; and Friday, August 3. For more information contact Student Services at 601-635-6205. The e-mail address is rlee@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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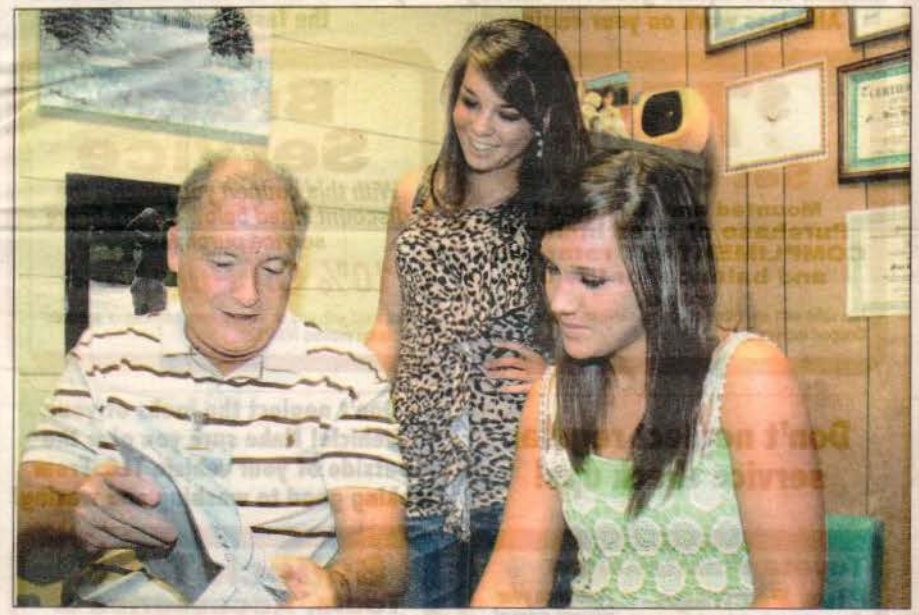
WEEK OF May 20, 2012

ECCC registration



East Central Community College history instructor Marc McCool (seated, left) assists his daughter, Lindsey McCool (standing), a Winston Academy graduate, and Louisville High School graduate Abbie Smith with their class schedules during Dual Credit Enrollment/Orientation held Friday, May 4, 2012, on the Decatur campus. The special registration was held for students who are currently enrolled in courses at the College while completing their senior year of high school. In addition to receiving their approved class schedules, students who attend orientation can reserve or check on the status of their dormitory rooms, and have photographs made for identification cards and the College yearbook. Additional orientation/registration sessions will be held Saturday, June 2; Friday, June 22; Friday, July 13; and Friday, August 3. For more information contact Student Services at 601-635-6205. The e-mail address is riee@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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Miller at ECCC

]Nakia Miller (right), a Louisville High School graduate, is shown preparing her fall class schedule with the assistance of East Central Community College psychology instructor Susan Fox-Smith during Dual Credit Enrollment/Orientation held Friday, May 4, 2012, at East Central Community College in Decatur. The special registration was held for students who are currently enrolled in courses at the College while completing their senior year of high school. In addition to receiving their approved class schedules, students who attend orientation can reserve or check on the status of their dormitory rooms, and have photographs made for identification cards and the College yearbook.

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WEEK OF May 20, 2012

ECCC Cheer Squad Announced for 2012-13

Cheerleaders were recently selected for 2012-13 at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced sponsor Huellen Watson.

Cheer Squad members and their respective high schools include Darrin Hillman, Sebastopol; Austin Flake and Lindsey McCool, both of Winston Academy; Mary Margaret Bailey, Philadelphia; Erica Clark, Neshoba Central; Madison Herrington, Union; Payton Smith, Scott Central; David Williams, Madison Stringer, Heather Johnson, Alex Hollingsworth, Lindsey Ezelle, Lauren Ezelle and Jordyn Landry, all of Newton County; and Laken Fulcher, Nanih Waiya.

Maxwell Parker of Noxapater was selected Warrior Chief mascot.

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WEEK OF May 27, 2012

Nicole Bounds of Newton and Virginia Holyfield of Decatur, both graduating sophomores at East Central Community College, received transfer scholarships to the University of Mississippi.
EC Photo

ECCC names Centralettes

Members of the East Central Community College Centralettes were recently chosen following auditions on the Decatur campus.

Those selected and their respective high schools include:

Hillary Williams and Lauren Daniels, both of Neshoba Central; Kenya Hickman and Abbie Smith, both of Louisville; Lauren Shimfessel and Kara Miller, both of Newton Academy; Ashley Milner, Pillow Academy; Kasey Logan, Lake; Tori McInnis and Emma Burton, both of Union; Emilee Cox and Kelsey Cox, both of Forest; Kendall Taylor, Central Academy; Brooke Massey, Winston Academy; Kara Beth Johnson, Morton; Emily Gully, Sylva Bay Academy; Kayla Covington, Nanih Waiya; and Taylor Gressett, Jayohnnie Slaughter, Samantha Ellingburg, Caitlyn Sant and Hannah Farmer, all of Newton County.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF May 27, 2012

2012-13 Ac'cents announced

Members of the East Central Community College show choir, The Ac'cents, were recently announced for the 2012-13 term.

Director Vicki Blaylock said, "There were more than 40 candidates who auditioned for a spot in the Ac'cents show choir. There were so many talented people audition and that really makes my job hard."

Those selected and their respective high schools include Alex Weir, Leake Academy; Claire Griffin, Jayhonnie Slaughter, Taylor Gressett, Jeremy Carson, Tyler Gilmore, Ryan Godwin and Chandler Smith, all of Newton County; Krissy Winstead, Union; Kara Miller, Newton Academy; Turner Stevens, Leake Central; and Sam Lovorn, Neshoba Central.

The Ac'cents perform for various civic clubs, schools and other organizations throughout the five-county district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties.

For more information, contact Blaylock at 601-635-6225. The e-mail address is vblaylock@eccc.edu.

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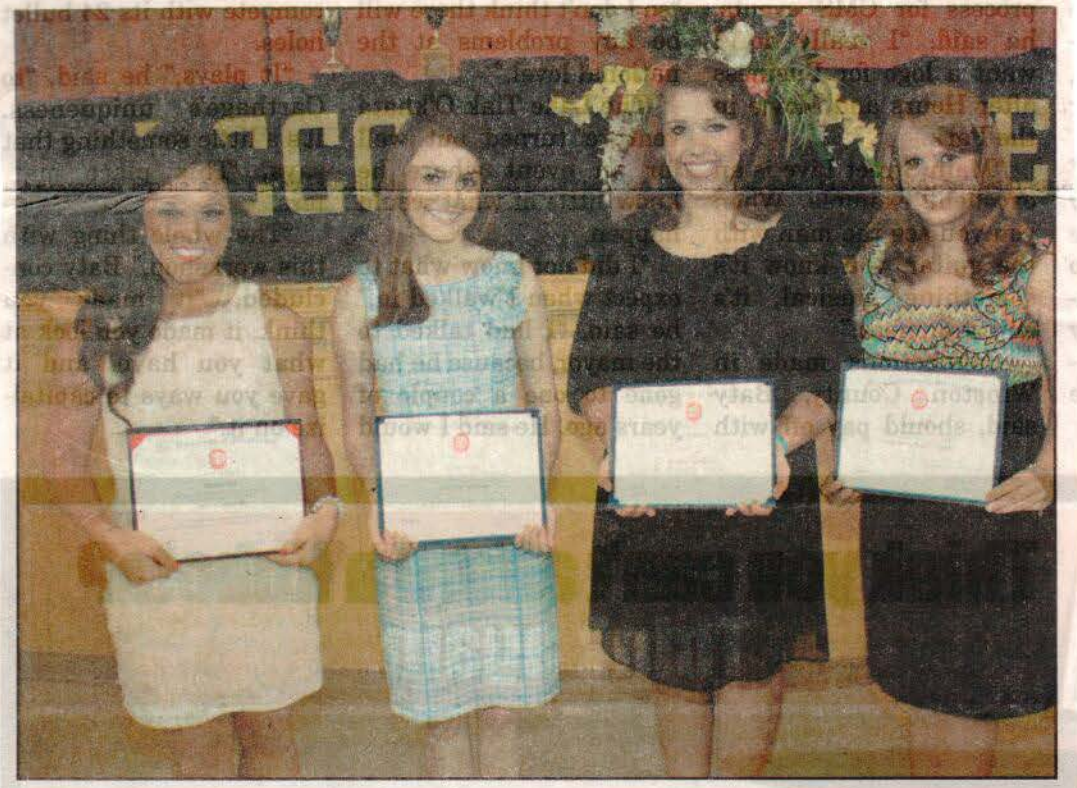
WEEK OF May 27, 2017

Scholarships



UM transfer scholarship winners

These East Central Community College graduating sophomores received transfer scholarships to the University of Mississippi, which were presented during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 3 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Pictured are (from left) Raychal Reed of Louisville, Ashley Moore of Carthage, Nicole Bounds of Newton and Virginia Holyfield of Decatur.

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WEEK OF May 27, 2012

ECCC's Allen, Patterson earn postseason honors

East Central Community College fastpitch softball players Tenna Patterson and Haelie Allen received honors following the Lady Diamond War-riors' successful 2012 campaign.

Patterson was named All-Region 23 and both players were selected to the MACJC All-State squad.

Patterson, a freshman pitcher from Lexington, Ala., went 16-9 in the circle and posted a 2.68 earned run average.

She fanned 117 batters. Patterson also received the Lady Diamond Warriors Most Valuable Player and Most Valuable Pitcher awards. She is a product of Lexington (Ala.) High School.

Allen, a sophomore infielder from Lena, led the team in batting with a .421 average.

She collected 51 singles and was credited with 24 RBIs. She also received the team's Lady Warrior Award. Allen is a product of Leake Academy.

The Lady Diamond Warriors finished third

See Honors, 9-A...

from school reports

Tenna Patterson

Haelie Allen

Honors...

From 8-A

in the MACJC South Division with a 15-9 record and advanced to the MACJC State Softball Tournament held at Itawamba Community College in Fulton.

EC dropped a 4-3 decision to Northwest Mississippi Community College in first-round action and completed season action at 31-15 record under head coach Scott Hill and assistant Kristin Chaney.

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WEEK OF June 3, 2012

ECCC's Leal, Anderson receive region, state honors

Sophomore catcher Carlos Leal and freshman middle infielder/outfielder Tim Anderson head a list of East Central Community College baseball players who received honors following the 2012 campaign.

Carlos Leal

Both players were selected All-Region 23 and were named first team MACJC All-State.

Leal is the only catcher named on the All-Region team and was a unanimous choice at the position throughout the MACJC (Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges), according to Diamond Warrior head coach Neal Holliman who had high praises for the 6-foot, 190-pound product from Puerto Rico.

Tim Anderson

"Carlos has been a tremendous asset to the baseball program at East Central," said Holliman. "His work ethic, loyalty, and leadership are prime examples of what we desire in our program. He has already signed a national letter of intent with Delta State University, but very possibly will be selected in the 2012 Major League Draft.

"He will definitely have some decisions to make for the upcoming

See Leal, 11-A...

Leal...

From 10-A

year as whether to go play professional baseball or continue his college career at Delta State."

Leal batted .321 with three home runs and six doubles. He collected 27 RBIs. Leal also received the Diamond Warriors' team captain award and was a co-recipient of Most Valuable Defensive Player honors.

Holliman said Anderson's selection to the All-Region team as a freshman is a "tremendous honor.

"Tim has continued to mature on the field and is growing into his abilities on a daily basis," said Holliman. "He will be playing this summer in the Jayhawk League in Dodge City, Kan., which is one of the premier collegiate wooden bat leagues in the country."

Holliman said Anderson plans to return to EC for his sophomore season and expects the 6-foot-1, 171-pound product of Hillcrest (Ala.) High School "to bring even more things to the table next year."

Anderson posted a team best .362 batting average and had four homers and nine doubles. He and first baseman/outfielder Ricardo Velez of Puerto Rico led the team with 39 RBIs each.

Velez joins fellow sophomores Fred Hampton, Evan Humphries, and Casey Wells on the MACJC All-State Second Team.

In addition to sharing RBI honors with Anderson, the 6-foot, 205-pound Velez batted .304 with two home runs and 14 doubles.

Hampton, a 5-foot-10, 200-pound outfielder, posted a .301 batting average and had three home runs and 10 doubles. He collected 32 RBIs. Hampton is a product of Nanih Waiya High School.

Humphries, a 6-foot-3, 200-pound right-handed hurler, posted a 5-1 mark and had three saves. He had a 3.34 earned run average and fanned 20 batters. Humphries also received the Scholar Athlete, Team Captain and Jamie Clark awards and was selected Most Improved Pitcher. He is a product of Louisville High School.

Wells, a 6-foot-2, 172-pound right-hander, also went 5-1 and was credited with one save. He posted a team-best 2.70 earned run average and fanned 31 batters. Wells is a product of West Jones High School.

"We are very proud of all these young men who received post-season honors," said Holliman. "I feel all have benefited from being at East Central and we have certainly benefitted from them being in our program. We wish them all the best in their future endeavors."

The Diamond War-riors finished fourth in the MACJC South Division with a 12-12 record and advanced to the state playoffs en route to a 25-23 record.

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WEEK OF June 3, 2012

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT
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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL
CLARION-LEDGER

Local students named to ECCC spring 2012 honors lists

DECATUR — Students named to the 2012 spring semester honor roll, which includes those selected to the President's List and Dean's List have been announced at East Central Community College in Decatur, according to David Case, Dean of Admissions, Records and Research.

Those named to the President's List, students with a 4.0 grade point average:

FOREST

Jessica Kay Barnett, Ashli Briana Bell, Daniel Hernandez Chim, Megan Oliva Everett, Edward C. Gaddis, Lindsay Alane Gibbs, Todd O'Neal Johnson, Amber Faith McDaniel, Dustin Cane Phillips and Christopher Ray Pittman.

LAKE

Hannah Laree Clay, Pheanice Hamm-Brown, Devyn Kendra Hughes, Shelby Lea Parkman and Allison Laine Taylor.

MORTON

Emily Elizabeth Marler.

PULASKI

Kathern Deniel Qualls and Ivory Summer Weldon.

Dean's List

The Dean's List includes the following students who achieved a 3.5 or above grade point average.

FOREST

Carmen M. Coleman, Freniben J. Desai, Sean Gregory Johnson, Edna Ruth McDonald, Shaki Shalone McLaurin, Shelby McMillan Patterson, Benjamin Michael Reiss, Titania Sherika Robinson, Peggy Sims and Amanda Marie Williamson.

LAKE

Clarence Edward Crell, Sharon Denise Hunt, Chelsea Leanne McMillan and Megan Nicole Reid;

MORTON

Taylor Melissa Lynch, Colby Drew Maner, Holli Virginia Nutt, Justin Ray Nutt and Kimberly Ann Traxler;

PULASKI

George Wesley Harrison.

APPEARED IN:

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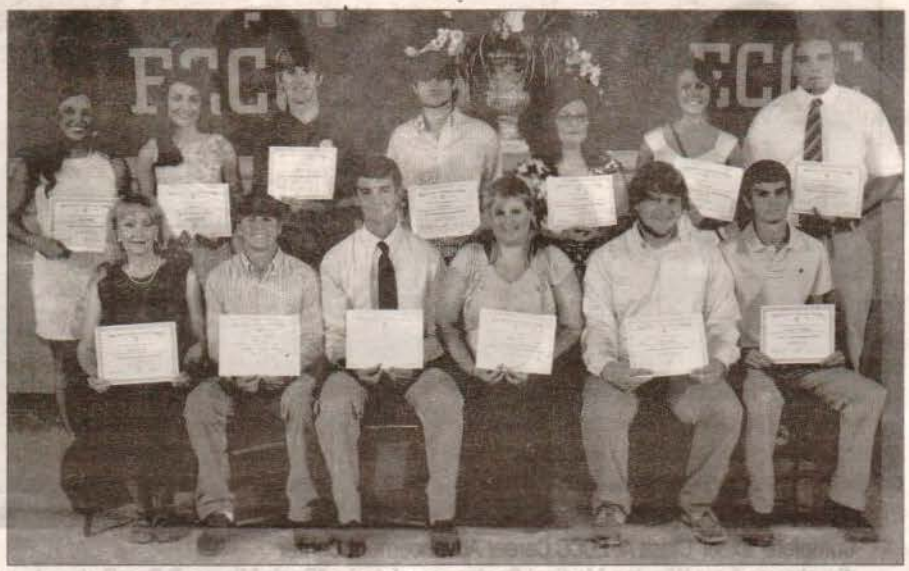
ECCC faculty



Receive ECCC Faculty Memorial Awards

These students were among those receiving Faculty Memorial awards during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 3, 2012, in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Students and their respective awards include (front row, from left) Janet Ethridge of Decatur, Aaron R. Davis Memorial Award; Andrew Hanna of Union, Frank Edwin and Nena Holt Leatherwood Biology Science and Frank M. Cross Freshman Chemistry Award; Evan Humphries of Louisville, Jamie Clark Memorial Award for Baseball; Megan Dollar of Union, J. Wallace Bedwell Business Award; Jeremy Carson of Decatur, Robert G. Fick Memorial Award and Leon Eubanks Kaljyc-Peers Award; and Donald E. Pendergrass of Philadelphia, Shelby L. Harris Memorial; and (back row, from left) Raychal Reed of Louisville and Ashley Moore of Carthage, both recipients of the Ruth Hull Wo-He-Lo (yearbook) award; Tyler Gilmore of Sebastopol, J. Andy Miller Freshman Engineering Award; Chris Morgan of Hickory, O.L. Newell Drafting Award; Susan Tillmon of Decatur, Charles E. Pennington Business Technology; Allyson Loper of Philadelphia, General William Patrick Wilson Academic Award; and Alexander Lee of Decatur, Thomas W. Thrash Memorial Award. Not pictured is Dustin Cane Phillips of Forest, L. B. Simmons History Award. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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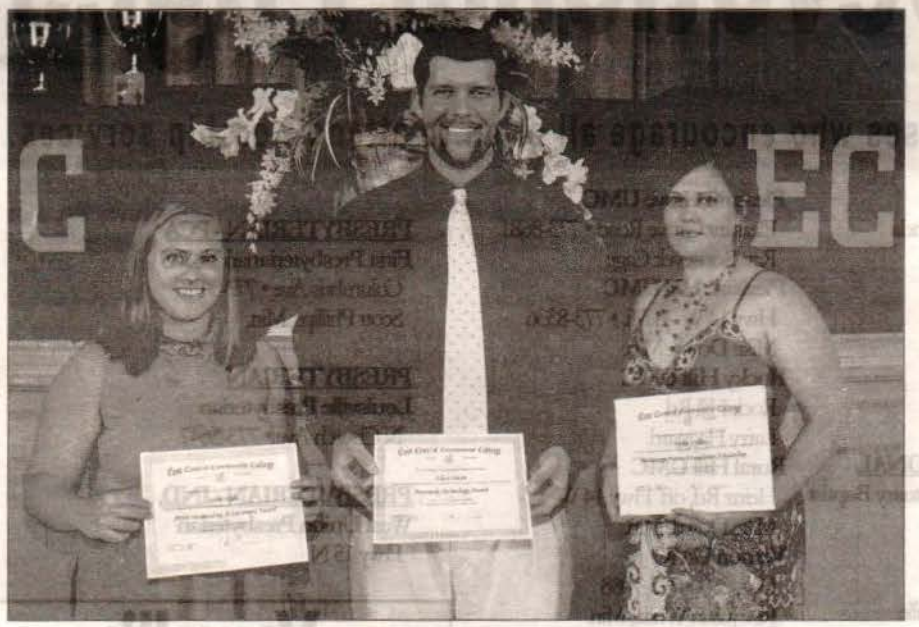
WEEK OF June 3, 2012

Receive ECCC awards



These students were recipients of healthcare program awards during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 3, 2012, in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Students and their respective awards include (from left) Jessie Flake of Philadelphia, ADN Outstanding Achievement; Elliot Owen of Meridian, paramedic technology; and Vickie Collins of Noxapater, recipient of the Mississippi Nurses Foundation Scholarship. Not pictured is Suzy Lane of Philadelphia, practical nurse award. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF June 3, 2012

ECCC awards

Receive ECCC Technical Awards

These students were recipients of various technical program awards during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 3, 2012, in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Students and their respective awards include (front row, from left) Guy Loper of Decatur, collision repair; Nathaniel Richardson of Lawrence, automotive technology; Kayla Dickerson of Union, computer technology; Justin Cabe of Forest, electrical technology; and James Tyler Moore of Lauderdale, heating and air conditioning; and (back row, from left) Jason Petro of Chunky, culinary arts; Sydney Mosely of Shubuta and Melissa Farmer of Philadelphia, both recipients of hotel and restaurant management technology awards; Keylon Johnson of Philadelphia, network support technology; and LaDarian Johnson of Newton, "Technical Student of the Year." Not pictured are Karen Townsend of Union, early childhood education; and Timothy Palmer of Louisville, manufacturing and machining technology. (EC Photo)

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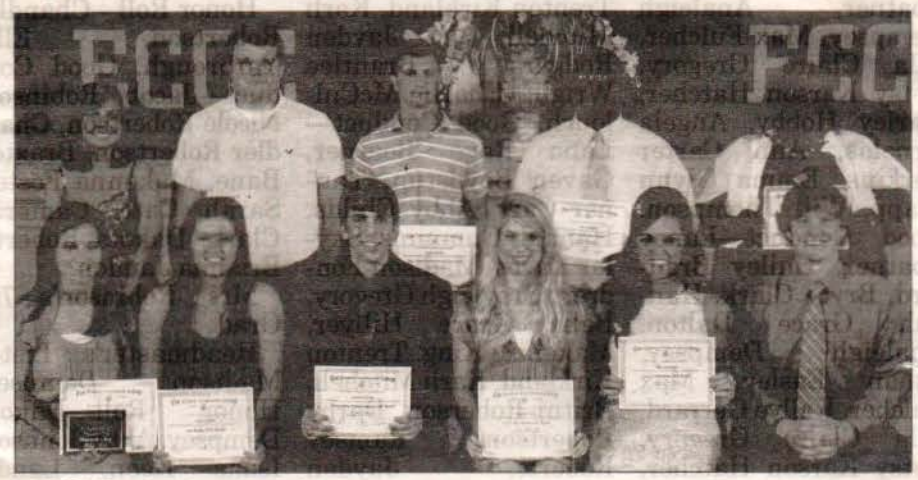
WEEK OF June 3, 2012

Special awards



ECCC 'Special' Award Recipients

These students were among those receiving 'special' awards during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 3, 2012, in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Students and their respective awards include (front row, from left) Shelby Powell of Meridian, Richard Fisher Organic Chemistry; Judson Bounds of Newton, S. Lebrun Hutchison Engineering; Benjamin Prestage of Carthage, freshman mathematics and Margaret Mosal Award for Leadership; Tyler Reeves of Decatur, sophomore mathematics and Roy Pete Award for Soccer; and Dorothy Chapman, MBEA (Mississippi Business Educators Association) Student Award; and (back row, from left) Bobbi Shwebel of Philadelphia, Myrtle R. Hutchison Elementary Education Award; Allison Perry of Philadelphia, Delta Kappa Gamma-Alyne Simmons Recruitment Grant; Nikki Cumberland, Roy Pete Award for Soccer; Andrew Hanna of Union, secondary education; and Kelsey Tadlock of Decatur, Lucille Wood Scholarship. Not pictured are Lindsay Gibbs of Forest, ECCC Players Award, and Christina Nollie of Carthage, MBEA Student Award and The Tom-Tom Award. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF June 3, 2012

ECCC faculty memorial recipients

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WEEK OF June 3, 2012

LA alumnus Allen chosen as all-stater

East Central Community College fast-pitch softball players Tenna Patterson and Haelie Allen received honors following the Lady Diamond Warriors' successful 2012 campaign.

Patterson was named All-Region 23 and both players were selected to the MACJC All-State squad.

Allen, a sophomore infielder from Lena, led the team in batting with a .421 average. She collected 51 singles and was credited with 24 RBIs. She also received the team's Lady Warrior Award. Allen is a product of Leake Academy.

ALLEN

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The Lady Diamond Warriors finished third in the MACJC South Division with a 15-9 record and advanced to the MACJC State Softball Tournament held at Itawamba Community College in Fulton. EC dropped a 4-3 decision to Northwest Mississippi Community College in first-round action and completed season action at 31-15 under head coach Scott Hill and assistant Kristin Chaney.

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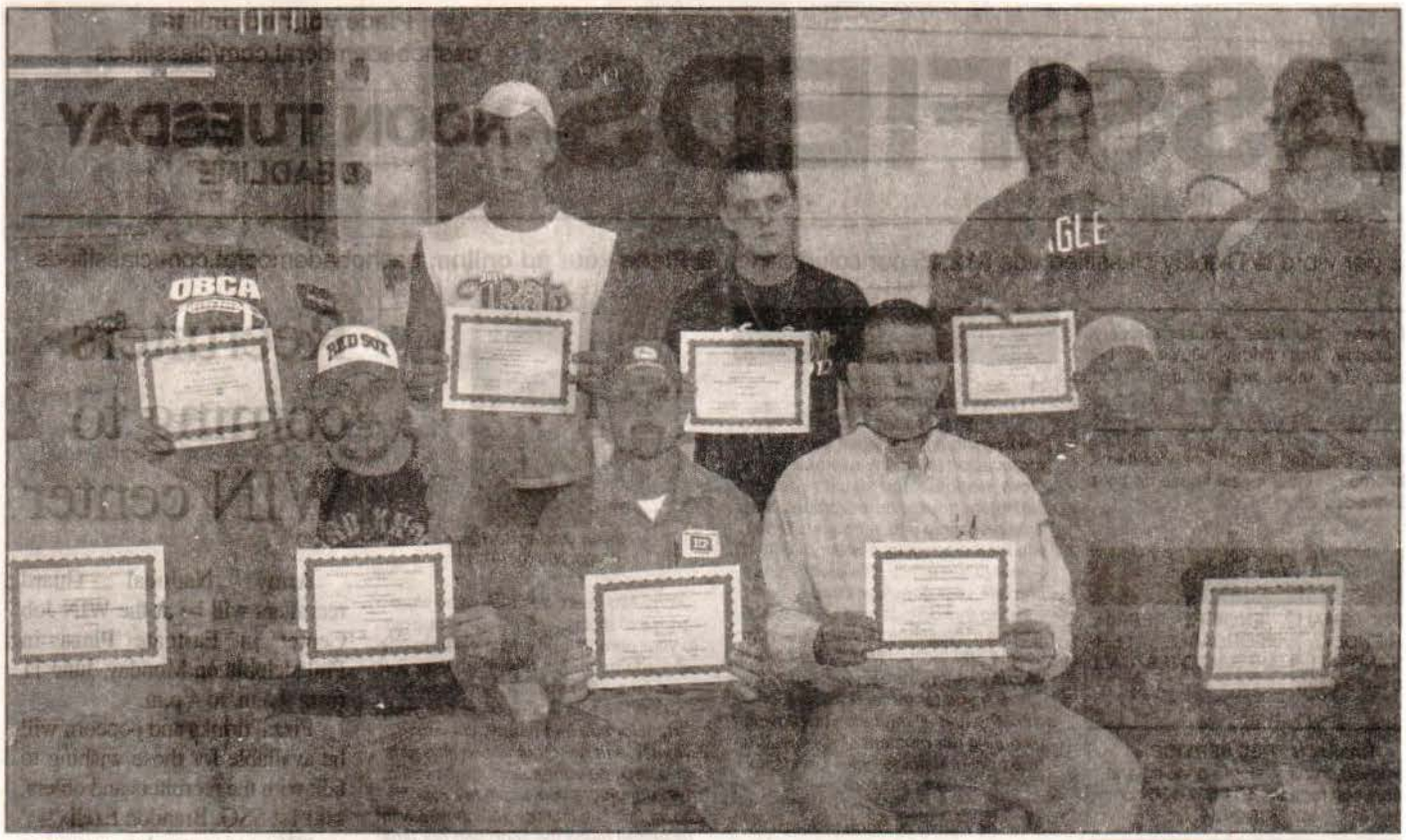
WEEK OF June 3, 2012



Completes Welding Instruction at ECCC Enhancement Lab

These participants recently completed instruction in MIG, TIG, stick, and gas welding at the ECCC Workforce Development Productivity Enhancement Lab located in the Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career and Technical Center. Those receiving certificates of completion are (front row from left) Josh Coglan of Philadelphia, Jason Swindle of Noxapater, Clinton Poole of Walnut Grove, Chris White of Philadelphia, and Tony Bingham of Union; (back row from left) Brandon Landrum of Sebastopol, Mark Rushing of Lena, Jerrad Boyle of Walnut Grove, Jonathan Eason of Philadelphia, and Joey Irby, Instructor. Also receiving certificates of completion but not pictured, are Richard Jones of Walnut Grove and Jovon Turner of Louisville. For more information on upcoming classes that may be offered, contact Chris Clark, ECCC Workforce Development Coordinator, Phone, 601-635-6245; email, cclark@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF June 3, 2012

ECCC program

ECCC Commencement Program Participants

Students participating on the program for East Central Community College's 83rd commencement include graduating sophomores (pictured, from left) Matthew Dempsey of Louisville and Polly Vaughn of Decatur, who will present the musical selection "For Good;" LaTia Peavy of Carthage, commencement speaker; Raychal Reed of Louisville, who will give the invocation; and Dustin Cullen of Carthage, benediction. Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, Vice President for Instruction, will present candidates for graduation and College President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin will award degrees and certificates to more than 410 graduates at 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 12, 2012, in the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF June 3, 2012

Scholarships

East Central Community College graduating sophomores Evan Humphries and Matthew Dempsey, both of Louisville, received transfer scholarships to Mississippi College in Clinton, which were presented during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 3, 2012, in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF June 3, 2012

MSU scholarships

These graduating sophomores at East Central Community College received transfer scholarships to attend Mississippi State University, which were presented during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 3 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Pictured are (front row, from left) Raychal Reed of Louisvlle, Anna Marie Leach of Sebastopol, Tate Rogers of Louisville and Bailee Viverette of Union; and (back row, from left) Tyler Yates of Decatur, Evan Humphries of Louisville, Jason Mann of Decatur and Dustin Cullen of Carthage. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF June 3, 2012

These students were inducted into East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, during the annual spring semester ceremony held recently. Pictured are (first row, from left) Sandy Alexander, Duffee; Leighanne Wright, Little Rock; Axie Jones, Decatur; Hannah Berryhill, Union; Brittany Smith, Decatur; Pheanice-Hamm Brown, Charles E. Curry, Jr., Newton; and Ed Boudreaux, Decatur; (second row, from left) Debbie Williams and Hannah Farmer, both of Newton; Tyler Reeves, Decatur; and Holly Jones, Tiffany Smith and Tanner Fortenberry, all of Union; and (third row, from left) Matthew Brown and Jeremy Carson, both of Decatur; Blake Cochran, Hickory; Claire Griffin, Decatur; Julien Gillis, Hickory; Darin Hillman, Conehatta; and Andrew Hanna, Union. Biology instructor Curt Skipper and career-technical counselor Amanda Walton serve as Theta Xi advisers. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF June 10, 2012

Peavy earns spot in scholarship plan

East Central Community College honor graduate LaTia Peavy, of Carthage, has been selected to participate in the Mississippi Rural Physicians Scholarship Program.

Created in 2007, MRPSP identifies college sophomores who demonstrate commitment and academic achievement to become rural primary care physicians in Mississippi.

Two years of undergraduate academic enrichment include MCAT preparation and a rural clinical experience for up to 20 students per year.

Upon completion of medical school admissions requirements, students will be admitted to the University of Mississippi School of Medicine through the direct admissions process.

During medical school, each program scholar may receive up to $30,000 per year.

Legislative support coupled with private funding translated into 53 students receiving a total of $1,590,000 this fall.

Upon completion of medical training, MRPSP scholars must enter a residency program in one of five primary care specialties, family medicine, general internal medicine, medicine-pediatrics, OB/GYN or pediatrics.

PEAVY

Program scholars must provide four years of service in a clinic-based practice in an approved Mississippi community of 20,000 or fewer more than 20 miles from a medically served area.

The program provides means for rural Mississippi students to earn a seat in medical school, earn MCAT preparation valued at $2,000, earn a $120,000 medical school scholarship in return for four years of service and learning from practicing rural physicians.

At ECCC, Peavy was elected sophomore class president, sophomore class favorite, a beauty and homecoming queen.

Additionally, she served on the President's Council, in the Warrior Corps and played in the Wall O' Sound band.

Peavy was the resident advisors' president, and vice president of fellowship in the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society.

She plans to continue her premed studies at Jackson State University this fall.

She is the daughter of Darrell Peavy and Tywana Peavy, both of Carthage.

For more information, telephone Janie Guice at 601-815-9022, email jguice@umc.edu or visit http://mrpsp.umc.edu.

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WEEK OF June 10, 2012

Student leaders attend conference

These student leaders at East Central Community College in Decatur recently attended a leadership conference held at the University of Mississippi in Oxford. Pictured are, front row, from left, Residence Advisor I'Oshore May of Carthage, Student Body Association officers Shamkisi Collier, secretary of Philadelphia, Erin Thornton, treasurer of Walnut Grove and Tiana Grover, sophomore class secretary of Newton; and back row, from left, SBA officers Lucas Calvert, sophomore class vice president/residence advisor, and Johnny Kight, sophomore class treasurer, both of Louisville; and Jeremy Carson, SBA president of Decatur. Marcie Pinson, director of housing/student activities, serves as SBA sponsor. (Submitted Photo)

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WEEK OF June 10, 2012

EC softball player takes honor for 2012 season

SUBMITTED TO THE TIMES

DECATUR — East Central Community College fast-pitch softball player Haelie Allen received honors following the Lady Diamond Warriors' successful 2012 campaign.

Allen, a sophomore infielder from Lena, led the team in batting with a .421 average. She collected 51 singles and was credited with 24 RBIs. She also received the team's Lady Warrior Award. Allen is a product of Leake Academy.

Allen

The Lady Diamond Warriors finished third in the MACJC South Division with a 15-9 record and advanced to the MACJC State Softball Tournament held at Itawamba Community College in Fulton. EC dropped a 4-3 decision to Northwest Mississippi Community College in first-round action and completed season action at 31-15 record under head coach Scott Hill, a native of Forest, and assistant Kristin Chaney.

Two local students named cheerleaders

ECCC Cheer Squad Announced for 2012-13

SUBMITTED TO THE TIMES

DECATUR — Cheerleaders were recently selected for 2012-13 at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced sponsor Huellen Watson.

Cheer squad members and their respective high schools include ***Darrin Hillman, Sebastopol***; Austin Flake and Lindsey McCool, both of Winston Academy; Mary Margaret Bailey, Philadelphia; Erica Clark, Neshoba Central; Madison Herrington, Union; ***Payton Smith, Scott Central***; David Williams, Madison Stringer, Heather Johnson, Alex Hollingsworth, Lindsey Ezelle, Lauren Ezelle and Jordyn Landry, all of Newton County; and Laken Fulcher, Nanih Waiya.

Maxwell Parker of Noxapater was selected Warrior Chief mascot.

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ECCC ADN Students Receive Nursing Pins

Forty-one students completed requirements for the Associate Degree Nursing Program at East Central Community College and received their nursing pins during a special ceremony held Friday, May 4 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus.

Jessie Flake of Philadelphia, "ADN Student of the Year," was the speaker and Allison Rogers of Louisville presented a vocal selection. Instructor Paula Russum presented pins to the graduates. The invocation and benediction were given by Jean Pfeifer of Philadelphia and Rachel Ramirez of Forest, respectively.

Those receiving pins and their respective hometowns include Tracey Giles, Brandon; Brooke Allen, Samantha Coleman, Keri Martin and Julie Shepard, all of Carthage; Yolanda Jones and Millicent Williams, both of Clinton; Audrey Haralson, Conehatta; Kimberly Amerson, Decatur; Rebekah Alawine, Florence; Megan Boswell, Rachel Ramirez and Suzanne Thornton, all of Forest; Alantha Hunley, Jackson; Rachel Smith, Lake; Ashley Walker, Little Rock; Kadie Hailey, Samantha Holdiness, Alexis Prisock, Allison Rogers and Brittany Young, all of Louisville;

Amanda Huitt and Morgan Strickland, both of Meridian; Renee Johnson and Beau Rhinewalt, both of Morton; Michaela Lee and Kyrstin Phillips, both of Nanih Waiya; Katie Thompson, Newton; Vickie Collins, Noxapater; Jessie Flake, Valerie Lillis, Jessica McDonald, Jean Pfeifer and George Sciple, all of Philadelphia; Kitty Stewart, Preston; Brandon Thompson and Haley Vance, both of Sebastopol; Richara Williamson, Sylvarena; and Jodie Roberts, Kristen Sistrunk and Karen Smith, all of Union.

Graduates also receiveD diplomas during the College's Commencement ceremonies scheduled at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 12, in the Neshoba County Coliseum.

Dr. Betsy Mann serves as Dean of Healthcare Education. For more information on the College's Healthcare programs, contact Dr. Mann at 601-635-6294. The e-mail address is bmann@eccc.edu.

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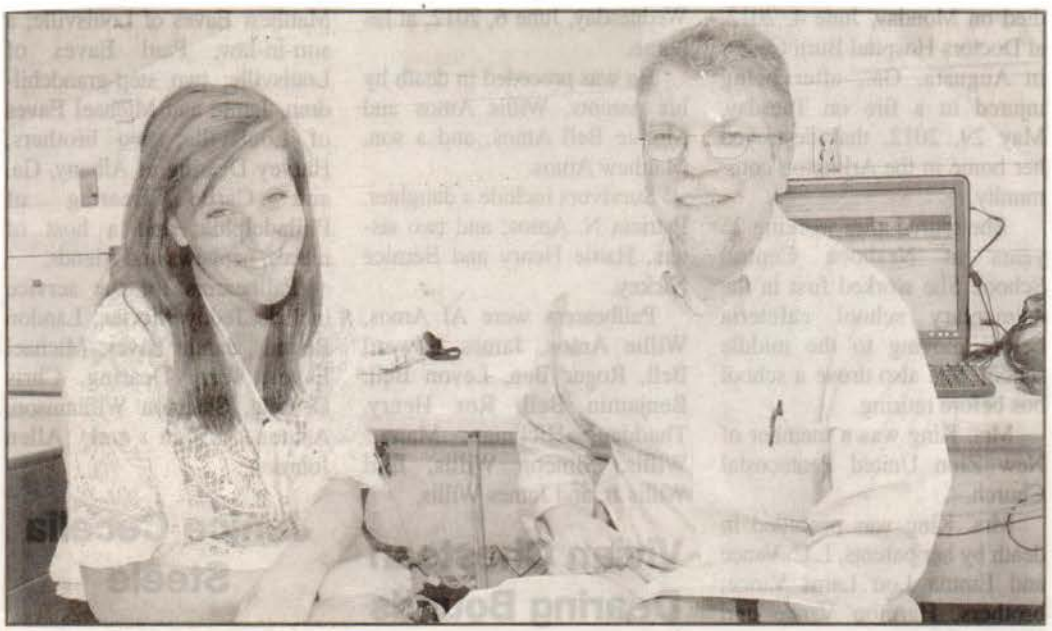

Estes Attends ECCC Orientation/Registration

Kayla Estes (left), a 2012 graduate of Neshoba Central High School, is shown preparing her fall semester class schedule with the assistance of science instructor George Alexander during registration/orientation activities held Saturday, June 2 at East Central Community College in Decatur. In addition to receiving their approved class schedules, students who attend orientation can reserve or check on the status of their dormitory rooms, and have photographs made for identification cards and the College yearbook. Additional orientation/registration sessions will be held Friday, June 22; Friday, July 13; and Friday, August 3. Classes begin Thursday, August 16. For more information contact Student Services at 601-635-6205. The e-mail address is rlee@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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ECCC visit

Maxey Parker (left), a 2012 graduate of Noxapater High School, attended Registration/Orientation activities held Saturday, June 2, 2012, at ECCC in Decatur and is shown preparing his fall class schedule with the assistance of academic counselor Lanette Hanna. Parker was selected the Warrior Chief mascot for 2012-13.Additional orientation/registration sessions will be held Friday, June 22; Friday, July 13; and Friday, August 3. Classes begin Thursday, August 16.

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ECCC leaders

ECCC Student Leaders Attend Conference

These student leaders at East Central Community College in Decatur recently attended a leadership conference held at the University of Mississippi in Oxford. Pictured are (front row, from left) Residence Advisor I'Oshore May of Carthage, Student Body Association officers Shamkisi Collier (secretary) of Philadelphia, Erin Thornton (treasurer) of Walnut Grove and Tiana Grover (sophomore class secretary) of Newton; and (back row, from left) SBA officers Lucas Calvert (sophomore class vice president/residence advisor) and Johnny Kight (sophomore class treasurer), both of Louisville; and Jeremy Carson (SBA president) of Decatur. Marcie Pinson, director of housing/student activities, serves as SBA sponsor. (Submitted Photo)

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WEEK OF June 17, 2012

These students were recipients of various technical program awards during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 3. Front row, from left, Guy Loper of Decatur, collision repair; Nathaniel Richardson of Lawrence, automotive technology; Kayla Dickerson of Union, computer technology; Justin Cabe of Forest, electrical technology; and James Tyler Moore of Lauderdale, heating and air conditioning; and (back row, from left) Jason Petro of Chunky, culinary arts; Sydney Mosely of Shubuta and Melissa Farmer of Philadelphia, both recipients of hotel and restaurant management technology awards; Keylon Johnson of Philadelphia, network support technology; and LaDarian Johnson of Newton, "Technical Student of the Year." Not pictured are Karen Townsend of Union, early childhood education; and Timothy Palmer of Louisville, manufacturing and machining technology.

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WEEK OF June 17, 2012

ECCC announces new cheer squad

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR — Cheerleaders were recently selected for 2012-13 at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced sponsor Huellen Watson.

Cheer Squad members and their respective high schools include ***Darrin Hillman, Sebastopol***; Austin Flake and Lindsey McCool, both of Winston Academy; Mary Margaret Bailey, Philadelphia; Erica Clark, Neshoba Central; Madison Herrington, Union; Payton Smith, Scott Central; David Williams, Madison Stringer, Heather Johnson, Alex Hollingsworth, Lindsey Ezelle, Lauren Ezelle and Jordyn Landry, all of Newton County; and Laken Fulcher, Nanih Waiya.

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Olivia and Madeline Potter of Flora were among East Central Community College students who were recently inducted into Theta Xi chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges. The annual spring semester ceremony was held in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur Campus. Olivia and Madeline also earned the distinction of being named President's List Scholars for the fall 2011 and spring 2012 semesters. They are the daughters of Tim and Kim Potter of Flora and are graduates of Madison Central High School.

These Union High School seniors were among the approximately 900 area students who participated in Senior Day activities recently at East Central Community College in Decatur. The special campus visitors received information on the various academic, technical, career and extracurricular opportunities available at ECCC and were entertained by several music and other performing groups. Pictured are (front row, from left) Ashlyn Pullin, Emily Hansford, Carley Townsend and Tori Holsen, and (back row, from left) Kyle Adkins, Adam Moore, Nathan Griffin, Demantreo Johnson, Luke Viverette and Tyler Kilpatrick, who are shown with Marcie Pinson, ECCC Director of Housing/Student Activities. ECCC serves Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties and the surrounding areas.

(EC Photo)

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Receive Automotive Manufacturers Scholarships

Aaron Cooper (left), a graduate of Morton High School, and Jack Vowell, a graduate of Louisville High School, are recipients of the Mississippi Automotive Manufacturers Association Scholarships at East Central Community College in Decatur. The award was presented during the annual AT&T Scholarship Awards Program held June 8 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon was held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria following the awards ceremony. During the 2012 event, 136 students received 111 endowed or annual scholarships totaling approximately $74,000 in value. (EC Photo)

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Students receive supervisors' scholarships

Neshoba County residents, second, from left, Jonathan Tindol, a graduate of Leake Academy, and D.J. Creekmore and Kayla Estes, both graduates of Neshoba Central High School, are recipients of Mississippi Association of Supervisors Scholarships at East Central Community College in Decatur. Also pictured are Neshoba County supervisors Marty Sistrunk, left, and Kevin Cumberland, right. The scholarships were established in 1996 by the Mississippi Association of Supervisors for each of the state's 15 community/junior colleges. They are awarded to three full-time students from each county in the ECCC district. The awards were presented during the annual AT&T Scholarship Awards Program held June 8 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon was held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria following the awards ceremony. During the 2012 event, 136 students received 111 endowed or annual scholarships totaling approximately $74,000 in value. (EC Photo)

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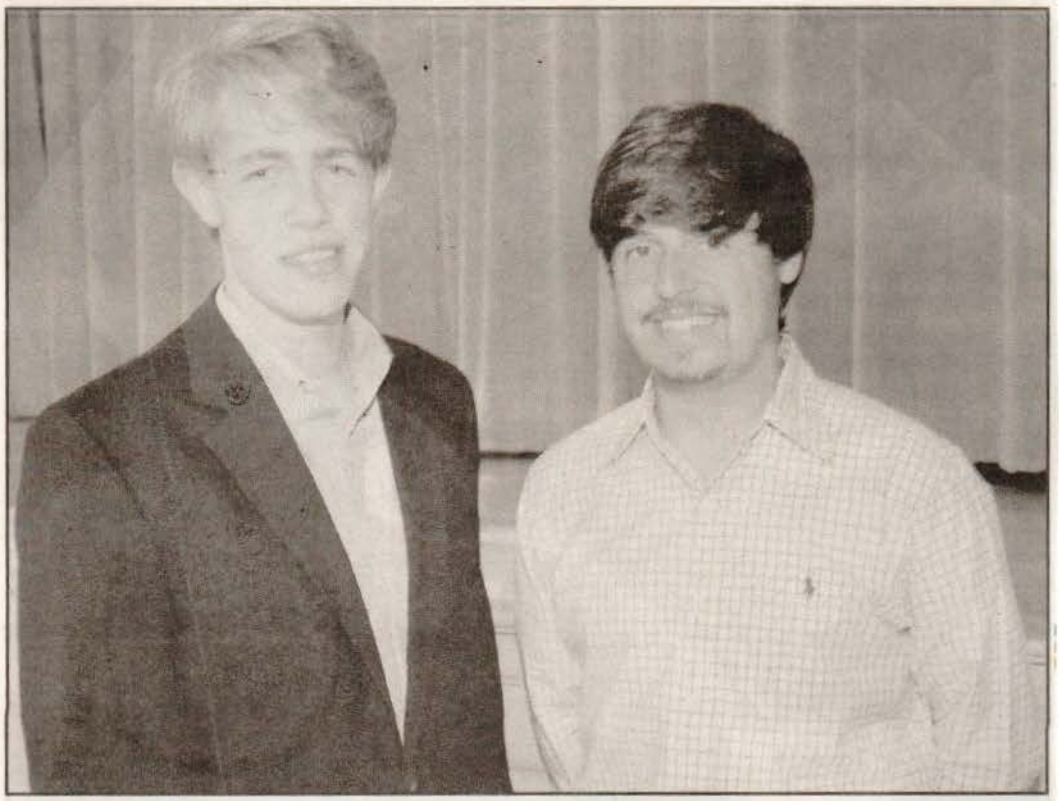

Receives Myers Scholarships at ECCC

Sam Lovorn and Zach Peden, both graduates of Neshoba Central High School, are the recipients of the Ben Myers Memorial Scholarships at East Central Community College in Decatur. These scholarships were established in memory of Ben Myers, a 1997 graduate of East Central Community College who lost his life in an automobile accident in 1998. The awards were presented during the annual AT&T Scholarship Awards Program held June 8 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon was held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria following the awards ceremony. During the 2012 event, 136 students received 111 endowed or annual scholarships totaling approximately $74,000 in value. (EC Photo)

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Taylor scholarships

Receive Taylor Scholarships

Daniel Thomas (second from left), a graduate of Winston Academy, and Raymond Farlow (third from left), a Neshoba Central High School graduate, are the recipients of the Taylor Advanced Welding Scholarships at East Central Community College in Decatur. Also pictured are Chuck Donald (left) and Rod Shealy, representatives from Taylor Machine Works, Inc., of Louisville. The awards were presented during the annual AT&T Scholarship Awards Program held June 8 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon was held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria following the awards ceremony. During the 2012 event, 136 students received 111 endowed or annual scholarships totaling approximately $74,000 in value. (EC Photo)

Scholarship

Dunaway Receives Covington Scholarship

Cassundra Dunaway (left), a graduate Noxapater High School, is the recipient of the W.R. Covington Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Also pictured are Dr. Eddie (right) and Charlotte Smith. Dr. Smith, ECCC President Emeritus, established the scholarship in 1985 in recognition of the support and assistance Mr. W.R. Covington of Noxapater provided for many students to aid them in attending college.

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ECCC scholarships

Receives ECCC Hudspeth Scholarship

Sam Gunnin, a graduate of Noxapater High School, is the recipient of the Hudspeth Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Hudspeth Scholarship was established in 1998 by Henry Bane "Bubba" Hudspeth and his wife, Faye McCully Hudspeth, of Louisville. It is awarded annually to a high school graduate from Winston County. The award was presented during the annual AT&T Scholarship Awards Program held June 8 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon was held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria following the awards ceremony. During the 2012 event, 136 students received 111 endowed or annual scholarships totaling approximately $74,000 in value. (EC Photo)

Receives Wilkes-Palmer Scholarship

Nan Hartness, a graduate of Winston Academy, is the recipient of the Wilks-Palmer Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. This scholarship was endowed by Elgie Wilks Chatham in 1998 for students from Winston County and honors her parents J. Earl Wilks and Willie Palmer Wilks. The award was presented during the annual AT&T Scholarship Awards Program held June 8 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon was held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria following the awards ceremony.

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Stinson Awarded Cross Scholarship at ECCC

Jessica Stinson (left), a graduate of Morton High School, is the recipient of the Nellie Neill Cross Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. She is pictured with donor representative Lois Cooper. The scholarship was established by friends and former students of Mrs. Cross, who served as an ECCC faculty member, manager of the Sullivan Student Center and was a loyal supporter of the College for more than 50 years. It is awarded annually to an entering freshman planning to major in music with an emphasis in voice. The award was presented during the annual AT&T Scholarship Awards Program held June 8 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon was held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria following the awards ceremony. During the 2012 event, 136 students received 111 endowed or annual scholarships totaling approximately $74,000 in value. (EC Photo)

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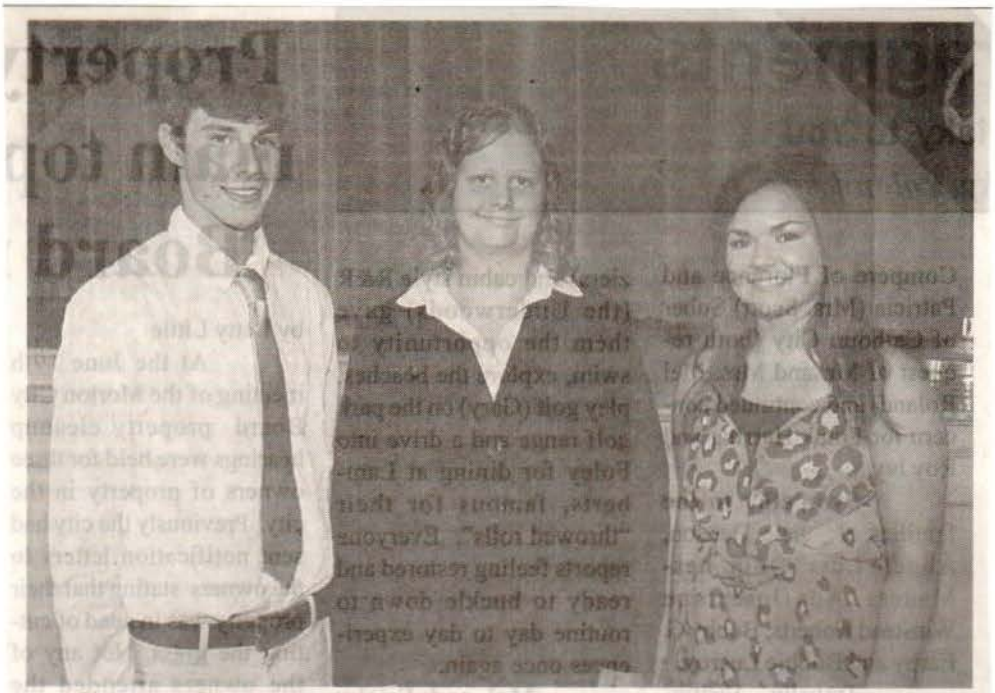

Scott County Residents Receive Supervisors' Scholarships

Scott County residents (from left) Tyler Patrick, a graduate of Morton High School, Emily Price, a graduate of Sebastopol High School, and Kelsey Cox, a graduate of Forest High School, are recipients of the Mississippi Association of Supervisors Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarships were established in 1996 by the Mississippi Association of Supervisors for each of the state's 15 community/junior colleges. They are awarded to three full-time students from each county in the ECCC district. The awards were presented during the annual AT&T Scholarship Awards Program held June 8 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon was held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria following the awards ceremony. During the 2012 event, 136 students received 111 endowed or annual scholarships totaling approximately $74,000 in value. (EC Photo)

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Nutt Receives Dobbs Scholarship

Sophomore Holli Nutt, a graduate of Morton High School, is the recipient of the Tony Dobbs Memorial Golf Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. This scholarship was established to honor the memory of Mr. Dobbs and is funded by the Forest Country Club's annual crawfish tournament and through private donations. The award was presented during the annual AT&T Scholarship Awards Program held June 8 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon was held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria following the awards ceremony. During the 2012 event, 136 students received 111 endowed or annual scholarships totaling approximately $74,000 in value. (EC Photo)

Rigney receives Humphreys Scholarship

East Central Community College sophomore Leah Rigney (left) of Morton is the recipient of the Kelly Elizabeth Humphreys Nursing Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Representing the donors is Alta Kate Humphreys who is shown holding a photograph of her late granddaughter, Kelly Humphreys. The award was presented during the annual AT&T Scholarship Awards Program held June 8 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon was held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria following the awards ceremony. During the 2012 event, 136 students received 111 endowed or annual scholarships totaling approximately $74,000 in value. (EC Photo)

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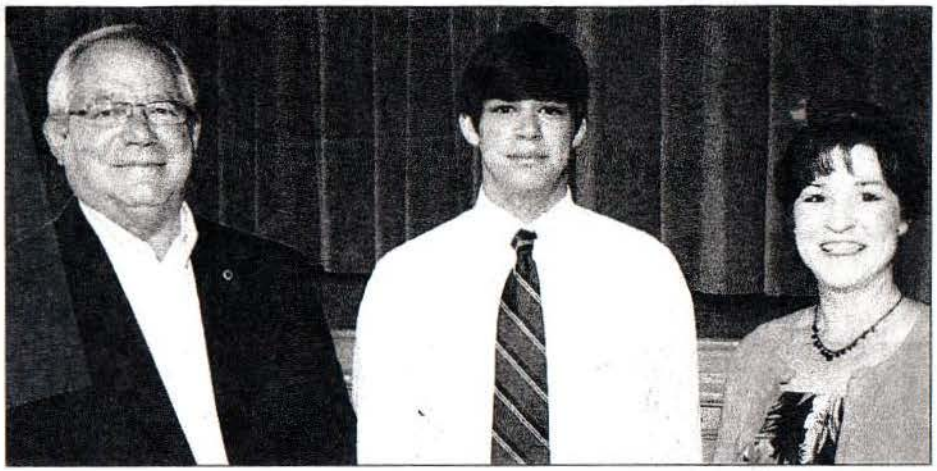
Scholarship recipients announced



Trevor Ayllon (center), a graduate of Newton County High School, is the recipient of a La-Z-Boy Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Also pictured are Tom Keith (left) and Julie Rowzee, representing La-Z-Boy South in Newton, which established the scholarship in 1995. The award was presented during the annual AT&T Scholarship Awards Program held June 8 in Huff Auditorium.

EC Photos

Sam Ellinburg (center), a graduate of Newton County High School, is the recipient of the Charles P. and Bonnie Saxon Phillips Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Shown with the recipient are donor representatives Charles and Glenda Malone. The scholarship was established by the Phillips in 2005.

WEEK OF June 27, 2012

Scholarship

Lane Taylor, a graduate of Neshoba Central High School, is the recipient of the Clyde B. and Flossie H. Goodson Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. This scholarship was established in 2010 and is awarded to a student majoring in forestry or horticulture.

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WEEK OF June 24, 2012

Receives Wheeler Scholarship

Sophomore Cain Prestage (center), a graduate of Leake Academy, is the recipient of the Harvey and Martha Wheeler Pre-Pharmacy/Pre-Med Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Also pictured are Dr. William E. Wheeler (right) of Gaffney, SC and Roberta Wheeler Byars (left) of Philadelphia, who established the scholarship to honor the memory of their parents and to assist and encourage those who are entering the fields of pharmacy and medicine. The award was presented during the annual AT&T Scholarship Awards Program held June 8 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon was held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria following the awards ceremony. During the 2012 event, 136 students received 111 endowed or annual scholarships totaling approximately $74,000 in value. (EC Photo)

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Meruvia Receives Breazeale Ministerial Scholarship

East Central Community College sophomore William Meruvia, left, of Neshoba Central, is the recipient of the 2012 Paul and Voncile H. Breazeale Ministerial Scholarship. He is pictured with Mr. and Mrs. Breazeale, who established the scholarship in 1995 for a student enrolled in a curriculum that will prepare them for ministry in full-time Christian service. The award was presented during the annual AT&T Scholarship Awards Program held June 8 in Huff Auditorium. (EC Photo)

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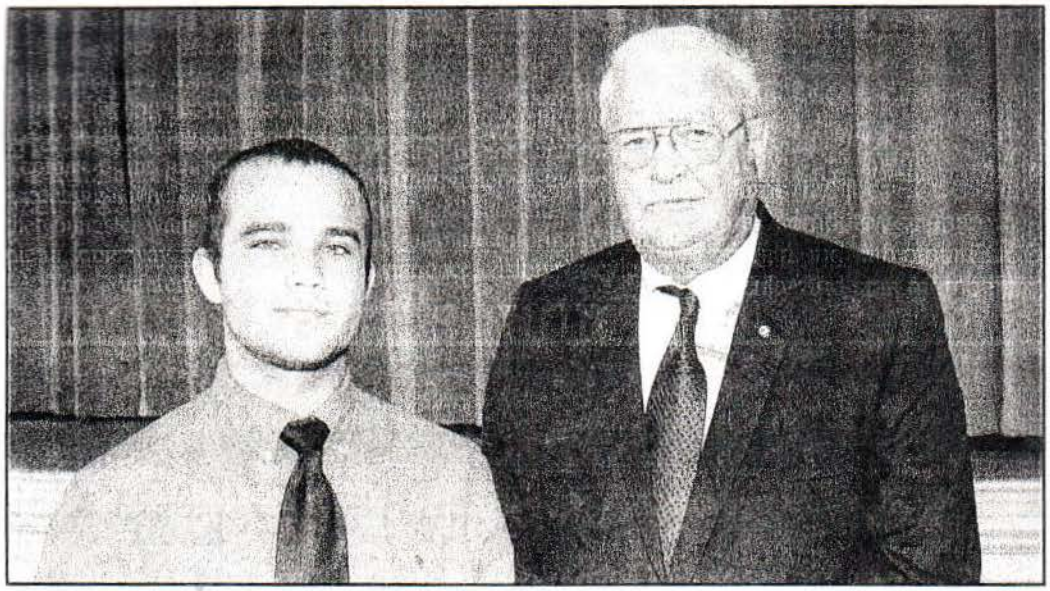
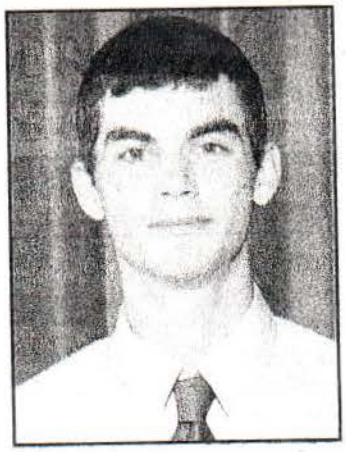
WEEK OF June 24, 2012



Receives Dan Harrison Memorial Scholarship

Colt Killen, left, a graduate of Neshoba Central High School, is the recipient of the Dan Harrison Rush Health Systems Memorial Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Representing Rush Health Systems was Herman Stegall, right. The scholarship fund was initiated and formally established in April 2010 by the Newton Community Healthcare, Inc. and Rush Health Systems. It is named in memory of ECCC alumnus Dan Harrison who served in a succession of positions over his 25 years with Rush Health Systems and was serving as Vice President at the time of his death. The award was presented during the annual AT&T Scholarship Awards Program held June 8 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon was held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria following the awards ceremony. During the 2012 event, 136 students received 111 endowed or annual scholarships totaling approximately $74,000 in value. (EC Photo)



Receives scholarship

East Central Community College sophomore Ethan Pendergrass of Neshoba Central is the 2012 recipient of the Dr. Shelby L. Harris Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship was established in 2002 in memory of Dr. Harris by the ECCC math and computer science division, along with other ECCC faculty and staff members.

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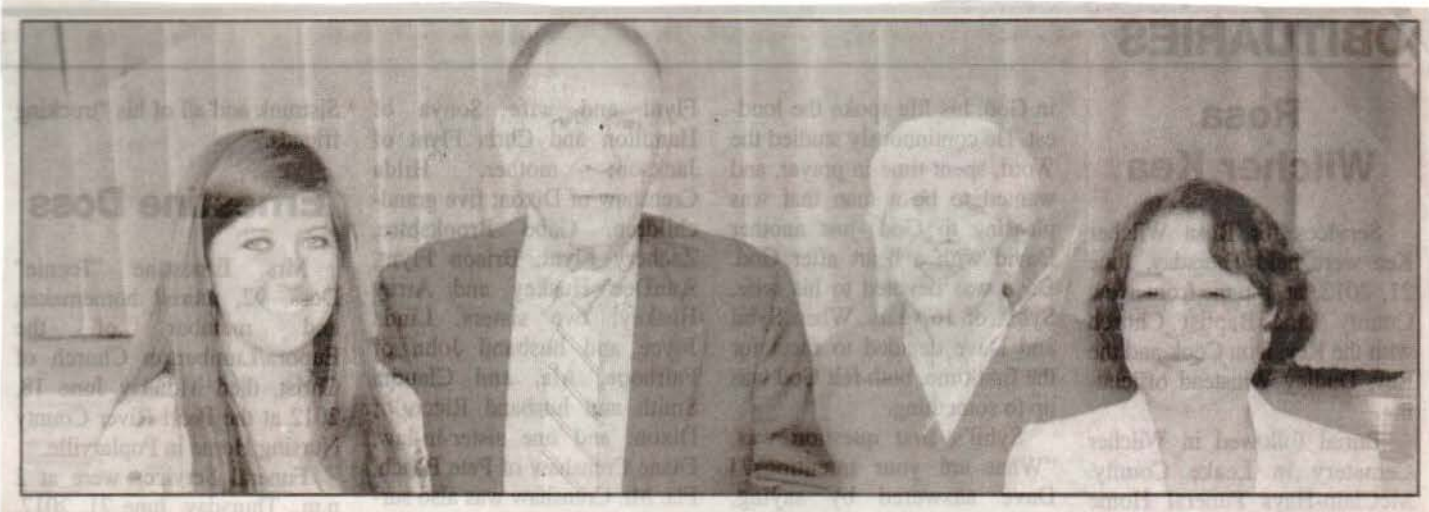

Montgomery receives ECCC Dallas Scholarship

Sophomore Megan Mc[illegible]ry, left, a graduate of Neshoba Central High School, is the recipient of the Fred Preston Dallas and Maudie Threatt Dallas Me[illegible]rship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Also pictured are donor representatives, beginning second from [illegible]urine Dallas Sims and Myeong Dallas. (EC Photo)

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Receives Thornton-Emerson Electric Scholarship

Sophomore Tanner Fortenberry, a graduate of Union High School, is the recipient of the Kinoth and Ella Mae Thornton and Emerson Electric Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established by the Thorntons and Emerson Electric in 1991 as a tribute to the college for its many positive contributions to the Thorntons' lives. The award was presented during the annual AT&T Scholarship Awards Program held June 8 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon was held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria following the awards ceremony. During the 2012 event, 136 students received 111 endowed or annual scholarships totaling approximately $74,000 in value. (EC Photo)

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Jones receives Bowen Scholarship

Hannah Jones, left, a graduate of Leake Academy, is the recipient of the Dr. Frank and Bobbie McPhail Bowen Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Also pictured is Dr. Frank Bowen of Carthage, who, along with his late wife, Bobbie, established this scholarship for a Leake County graduate who finishes in the top 10 percent of his or her high school class and enrolls as a full-time student at ECCC the fall semester following high school graduation. The award was presented during the annual AT&T Scholarship Awards Program held June 8 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon was held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria following the awards ceremony. During the 2012 event, 136 students received 111 endowed or annual scholarships totaling approximately $74,000 in value. (EC Photo)

Scholarship

Sophomore LaJoya Griffin, a graduate of Philadelphia High School, is the recipient of the Jacob Stovall Memorial Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The award was presented during the annual AT&T Scholarship Awards Program held June 8 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon was held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria following the awards ceremony. During the 2012 event, 136 students received 111 endowed or annual scholarships totaling approximately $74,000 in value. (EC Photo)

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Receives Taylor Scholarships

Daniel Thomas, second from left, a graduate of Winston Academy, and Raymond Farlow, third from left, a Neshoba Central High School graduate, are the recipients of the Taylor Advanced Welding Scholarships at East Central Community College in Decatur. Also pictured are Chuck Donald, left and Rod Shealy, representatives from Taylor Machine Works, Inc., of Louisville. The awards were presented during the annual AT&T Scholarship Awards Program held June 8 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon was held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria following the awards ceremony. During the 2012 event, 136 students received 111 endowed or annual scholarships totaling approximately $74,000 in value. (EC Photo)

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EMS Scholarship

Sophomore Leslie Collins, left, of Neshoba Central is the recipient of the Kenny Coleman EMS Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Also pictured is Annette Watkins, representing Neshoba County General Hospital and Nursing Home, which established the scholarship in 2009. The award was presented during the annual AT&T Scholarship Awards Program held June 8 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon was held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria following the awards ceremony. During the 2012 event, 136 students received 111 endowed or annual scholarships totaling approximately $74,000 in value. (EC Photo)

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Warrior cheerleader awards

Members of the 2011-12 East Central Community College cheerleading squad receiving honors at the Spring Sports Banquet are (seated from left) Ashli Bell (Warrior Award), Madison Nowell (Academic Award), and Hailey Dunavant (Captain Award). Standing are Jacob Johnson (Captain Award) and Whitney Stokes (Coach's Award). Not pictured is Lane Evans (Mascot Award).

EC photo

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Receives ECCC Healthcare Awards

These students were recipients of healthcare program awards during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 3, 2012, in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Students and their respective awards include, from lef, Jessie Flake of Philadelphia, ADN Outstanding Achievement; Elliot Owen of Meridian, paramedic technology; and Vickie Collins of Noxapater, recipient of the Mississippi Nurses Foundation Scholarship. (EC Photo)

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ECCC PHOTO

BUFKIN WINS AWARD

Members of the 2011-12 East Central Community College women's basketball team received honors at the Spring Sports Awards Banquet held on the Decatur campus. Among them, Kelcia Bufkin, a product of Scott Central High School, received the hustle award. ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin and Lady Warrior head coach Bill Smith presented awards.

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WEEK OF June 24, 2012

Area students earn ECCC recognition

Leake County's Dustin Cullen was among six inductees into the East Central Community College Hall of Fame during recent ceremonies.

Other inductees for 2012 included Matthew Dempsey and Raychal Reed, both of Louisville; Bailee Viverette of Union, Alyse Webb of Noxapater, and Tyler Yates of Decatur.

Cullen is a 2010 graduate of Leake Academy and the son of Allen and Monica Cullen of Carthage.

He was named to the 2012 All-Mississippi Academic Second Team and is also a President's List Scholar with a perfect 4.0 grade point average.

Cullen was selected the College's Higher Education Appreciation Day: Working Toward Academic Excellence Student of the Year for 2012.

He was chosen a freshman and sophomore class favorite and serves as president of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, Alpha Alpha Epsilon, "The Engineers," and Baptist Student Union.

He is a member of the Astronomy and Environmental clubs, BSU's "The Way," Wesley Foundation, and the ECCC Players.

Cullen was named to *Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges.*

During the award ceremonies other area students gained recognition, including:

- Augustus Wilcher of Carthage, welding and cutting "Taylor Cup" and "Career Student of the Year," and Eli Tubby of Choctaw, residential carpentry, among career award recipients.
- Dustin Cullen of Carthage, PTK Presidential Gavel, Alford J. Deaton Physics and co-recipient of East Central Environmental Club award; Benjamin Prestage of Carthage, freshman mathematics and Margaret Mosal for Leadership awards; Christina Nollie of Carthage, co-recipient of Mississippi Business Education Association and recipient of *The Tom-Tom* awards; Nikki Cumberland of Lena, co-recipient, Roy Pete Awards for Soccer; among special award winners.
- Ashley Moore of Carthage, Alatha Chaney English; Dustin Cullen of Carthage, Danny Ray Killens Engineering; as alumni memorial awards recipients.
- Ashley Moore of Carthage, co-recipient of the Ruth Hull Wo-He-Lo award; as a faculty memorial award winner.

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Scholarships handed out at ECCC

Sophomore Andrew Hanna of Union, a graduate of Newton County Academy, is the recipient of the Frank Edwin and Nena Holt Leatherwood Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur.

The scholarship was established by family and friends in memory of the longtime educators. Mr. Leatherwood was a member of the ECCC science faculty for a number of years and Mrs. Leatherwood served as an elementary school teacher.

EC Photos

Jacob Oliver (center), a graduate of Newton County High School, is the recipient of the Thomas Rudolph Mayes Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured with the recipient are Sid (right) and Jackie Etie, who, along with family and friends, established the scholarship in 1998 in memory of her father, Rudolph Mayes. Mr. Mayes served 28 years as an English instructor at the College.

Newton County residents (from left) Felicia Robinson and Katie Bradley, both graduates of Newton County High School, and Newton High School graduate Katriona Robinson are recipients of the Mississippi Association of Supervisors Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Also pictured is Kenneth Harris, President of the Newton County Board of Supervisors.

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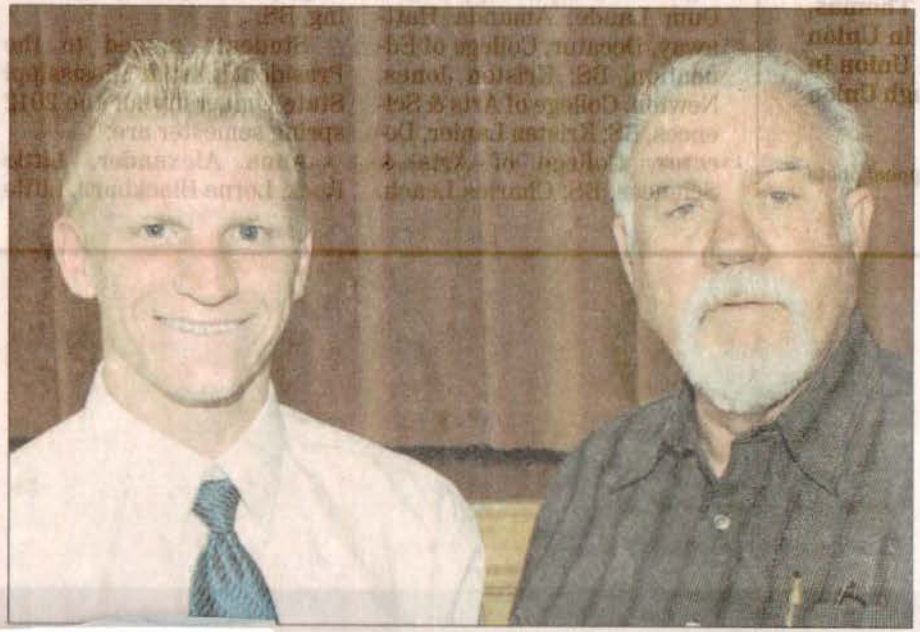
Sophomore Jennifer Collins of Newton is the recipient of the New Directions Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 1998 for full-time nontraditional students age 21 or older who have returned to college after having been out of school for more than three years.

Sophomore Alexander Lee, a graduate of Newton County High School, is the recipient of the Thomas W. Thrash Memorial Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. He is shown with Jeanette Thrash, who along with family and friends endowed this scholarship in 2002 in memory of her late husband who served on the ECCC faculty for 40 years.



Jesse Vaughn (left), a graduate of Newton County High School, is the recipient of the Shirley Renaud Memorial Scholarship. Also pictured is Joe Renaud, who helped established the scholarship in memory of his wife.

Emily Jacome-Cluff (left) and Chandler Smith (center), both graduates of Newton County High School, are recipients of the Newton Rotary Club Scholarships at East Central Community College in Decatur. At right is Rotary representative Tyler McCaughn.

Alex Meador, a graduate of Newton County High School, is the recipient of the Ruth Round Volunteer Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 2010 by Newton Community Healthcare, Inc., to honor Ruth Round of Newton, who served as president of the Pink Ladies Auxiliary at the hospital in Newton for 22 years and contributed more than 40,000 volunteer hours of service.

Sophomore Edward Boudreaux of Decatur is the recipient of the Stella Weathersby Newsome Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was initiated in 1998 by Mrs. Newsome's granddaughter, Marion Francis of Jackson, to honor the memory of the longtime ECCC literature instructor.

Awards

WEEK OF July 1, 2012

Receives ECCC career awards

These students were the recipients of various career program awards during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 3, in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Students and their respective awards include, from left, Catherine Tribble of Rose Hill and Sara Schwebel of Philadelphia, both recipients of cosmetology awards; and Augustus Wilcher of Carthage, welding and cutting "Taylor Cup" and "Career Student of the Year." Not pictured is Eli Tubby of Choctaw, residential carpentry award. (EC Photo)

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Week of July 1, 2012

Nollie receives USM Scholarships

East Central Community College graduating sophomore Christina Nollie of Carthage received a transfer scholarship to the University of Southern Mississippi during the College's annual Awards Day program held May 3 on the Decatur campus. In addition, she was the recipient of a Mississippi Business Educators Association Award and The Tom-Tom Award. (EC Photo)

Appeared in:

Carthaginian_____

Newton County Appeal_____

Spirit of Morton_____

Meridian Star_____

Neshoba Democrat ✓

Scott County Times_____

Winston County Journal____

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Week of July 1, 2012

ECCC PHOTO

Matthew Evans (left), a graduate of Forest High School, is the recipient of the Russell McCann Memorial Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured with the recipient is McCann's mother, Teresa Wiliamson Shannon, who, along with family and friends, established the scholarship in 2001. The award was presented during the annual AT&T Scholarship Awards Program held June 8 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon was held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria following the awards ceremony. During the 2012 event, 136 students received 111 endowed or annual scholarships totaling approximately $74,000 in value.

Appeared in:

Carthaginian_____

Newton County Appeal_____

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Meridian Star_____

Neshoba Democrat_____

Scott County Times ✓

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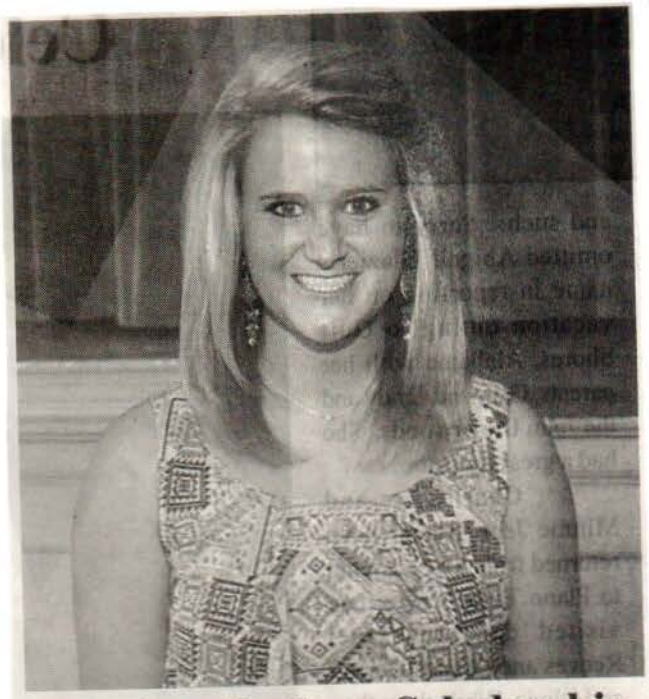

Receives Lathem Scholarship

Caitlyn Sant, a graduate of Morton High School, is the recipient of the Andrew Wilson Lathem Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship is awarded annually by the family of Andrew Lathem, a Sebastopol native and member of the ECJC Class of 1940. The award was presented during the annual AT&T Scholarship Awards Program held June 8 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon was held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria following the awards ceremony. During the 2012 event, 136 students received 111 endowed or annual scholarships totaling approximately $74,000 in value. (EC Photo)

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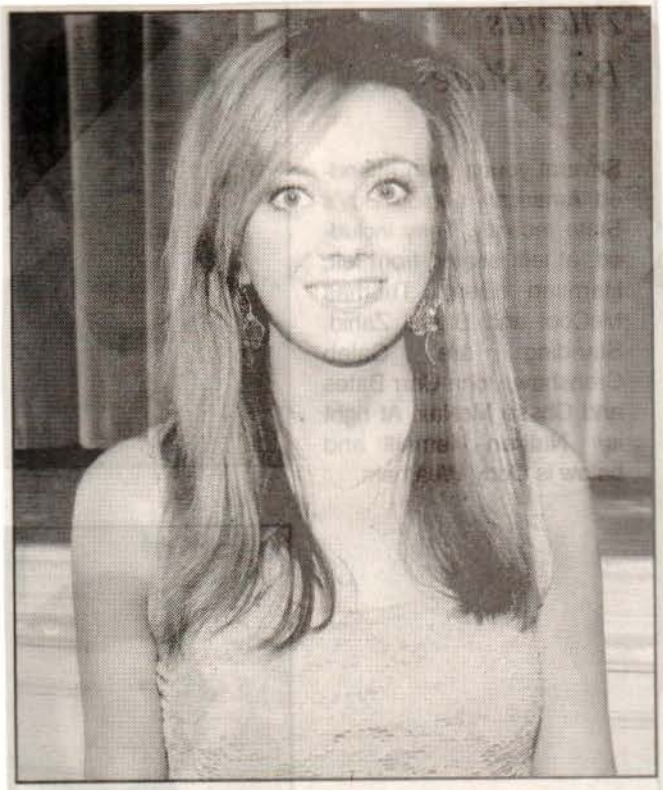
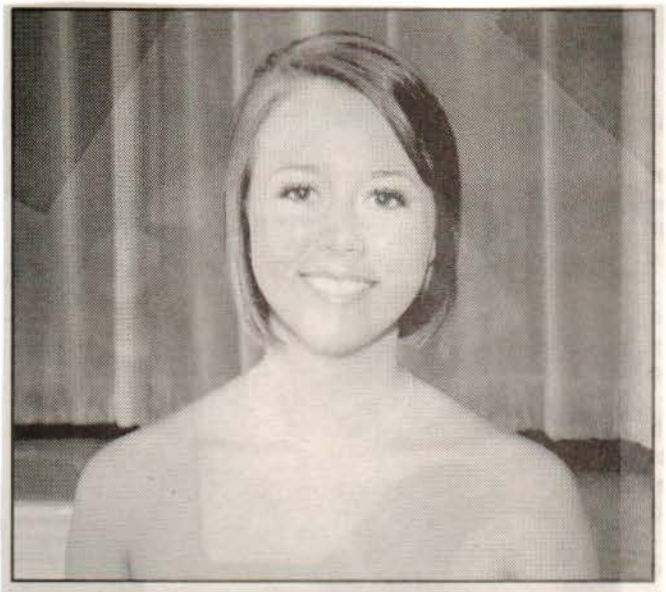


Receives Pugh Scholarship

East Central Community College sophomore Meghan Johnson, a graduate of Leake Academy, is the recipient of the Roscoe C. Pugh Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship was established by former ECCC English instructor Leon Eubanks in 1996 and honors the College's first president, Roscoe Pugh, who served from 1928 to 1934. (EC Photo)



Receives Wilson Scholarship

Allyson Loper, a graduate of Leake Academy, is the recipient of the General William Patrick Wilson Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established by the Class of 1937, family, friends and associates of General Wilson, who served as a coach, dormitory supervisor, teacher and National Guard officer at ECJC from 1933 to 1940. (EC Photo)

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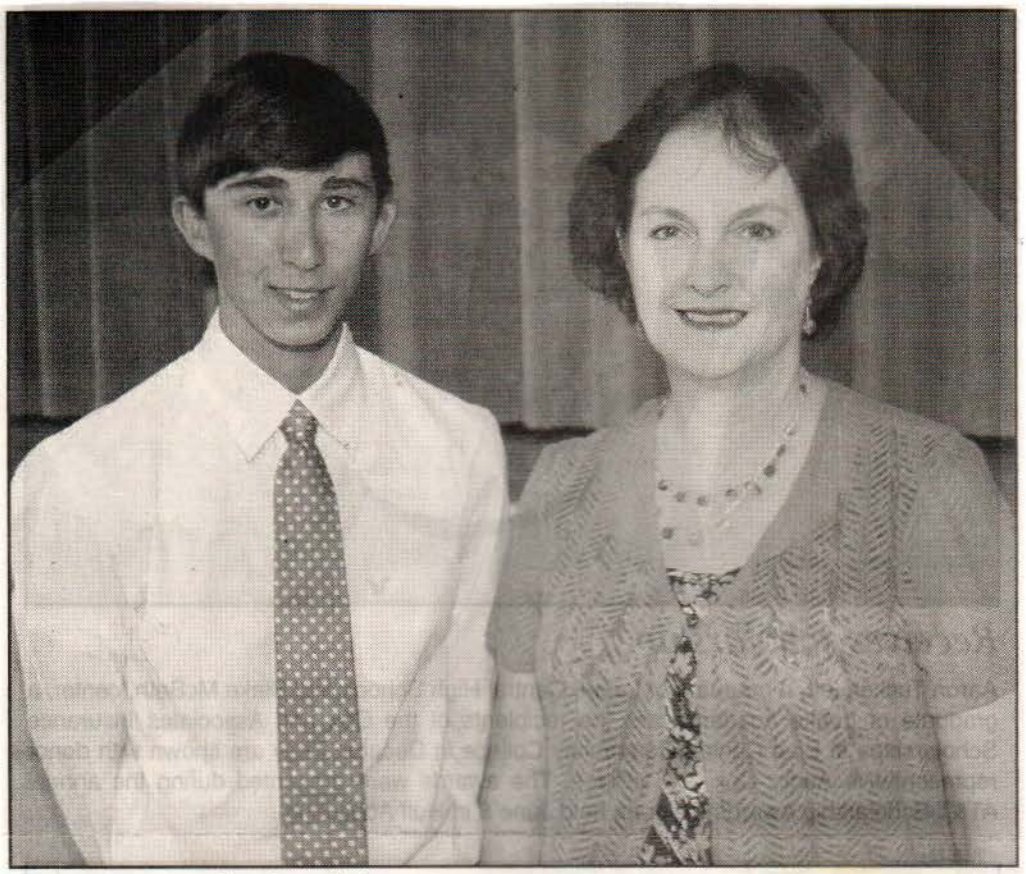

Receives scholarship

Sophomore Stephen May (left) of Leake Academy is the recipient of the Johnson-Taylor Memorial Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Also pictured is Susan Taylor of Decatur, who, along with her husband, Bruce, established the scholarship in 2008 to honor the memory of their parents, Elmer and Frances Johnson and Wilson and Marguerite Taylor. The award was presented during the annual AT&T Scholarship Awards Program held June 16 in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon was held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria following the awards ceremony. During the 2012 event, 136 students received 111 endowed or annual scholarships totaling approximately $74,000 in value. (EC Photo)

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Receives Hogue-Brantley Scholarship

Sophomore Jerrie Boatright, center, a graduate of Neshoba Central High School, is the recipient of the Hogue-Brantley Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Funded in 2001, this scholarship honors Leake County natives Coyt Hogue and Bobbie Brantley Hogue. Also pictured are donor representatives Larry Hogue, left, and Tommye Rosenbaum. (EC Photo)

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Receives scholarship

Aaron Tucker, left, a graduate of Leake Central High School, and Blake McBeth, center, a graduate of Leake Academy, are the recipients of the Cox and Associates Insurance Scholarships at East Central Community College in Decatur. They are shown with donor representative Aubry Cox of Carthage. The awards were presented during the annual AT&T Scholarship Awards Program held June 8 in Huff Auditorium.

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Students receive MUW scholarships

East Central Community College graduating sophomores, from left, Brittany Boatner of Philadelphia and Alyse Webb of Noxapater received transfer scholarships to Mississippi University for Women, which were presented during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 3 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. (EC Photo)

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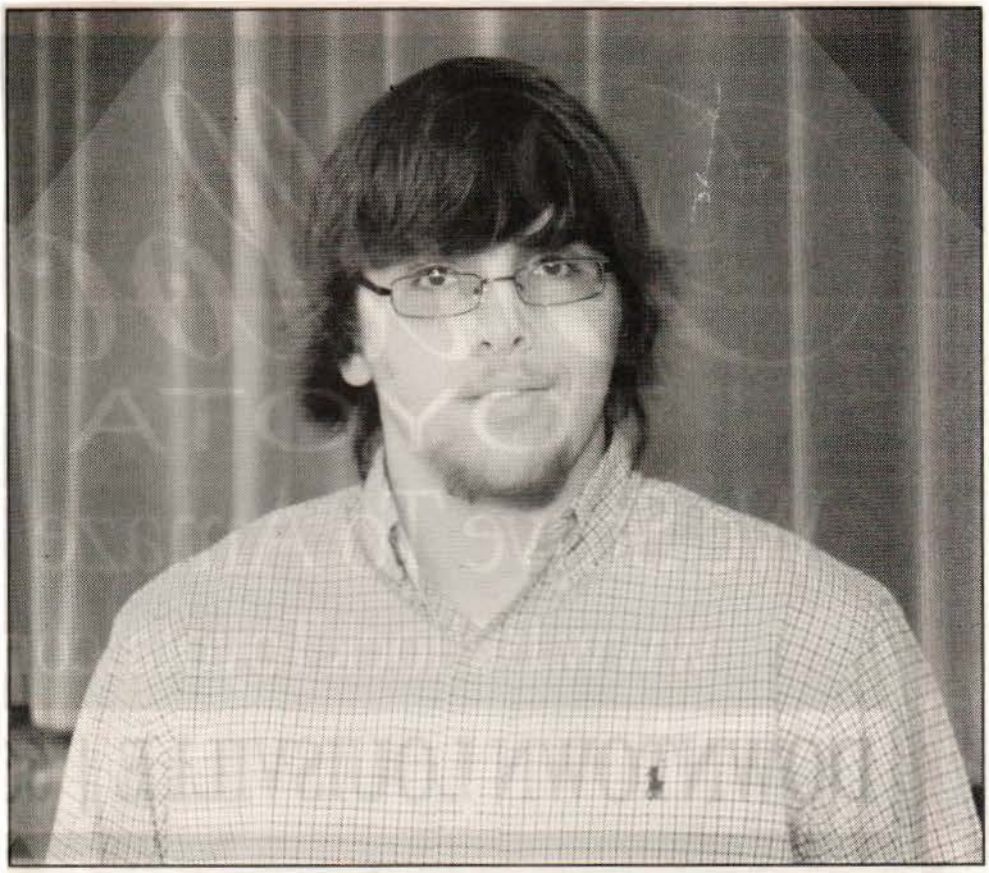

Prestage receives Mosal Scholarship

Sophomore Cain Prestage of Leake Academy is the recipient of the Dr. Margaret Mosal Memorial Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. This scholarship was established in 1997 by the late Dr. Shelby Harris to provide financial assistance to deserving students at East Central Community College. It is named in honor of the late Dr. Margaret Mosal of Canton, former executive director of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges. (EC Photo)

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ECCC students receive scholarships

Aderian Partain (center), a 2012 graduate of Newton County High School, is the recipient of the AT&T Endowed Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. This scholarship was established in 2003 and benefits students who are pursuing a degree in education or business. Also pictured with the recipient are his father, Robbie Partain (left), and AT&T representative Corey Amis.

Shelby Johnston (left), a graduate of Leake Academy, is the recipient of the Iris Boggan Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. This scholarship was established in 2008 in honor of Iris Pellengrene Boggan, R.N., who, along with her husband, Dr. Austin P. Boggan, ran a general practice clinic in Decatur for more than 50 years. Representing the donors is the Boggans' daughter, Ada Boggan McGrevey of Decatur.

Sophomore Judson Bounds, a graduate of Newton High School, is the recipient of the S. LeBrun Hutchison Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship is awarded to a member of Alpha Alpha Epsilon Engineering Club and was established by Mr. Hutchison, a founding member and vice president of AAE.

Casey Cherry (left), a graduate Union High School, is the recipient of the W. Clayton Blount Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 1995 in honor and appreciation of Coach Blount by his former students. Pictured with the recipient is donor representative Lois Blount Cooper.

Scholarships

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Orientation / Enrollment

WEEK OF July 1, 2012

Attends orientation

Ty Buckley (right), a 2012 graduate of Neshoba Central High School, attended registration/orientation activities held Saturday, June 2, 2012, at East Central Community College in Decatur. She is shown preparing her fall class schedule with the assistance of ECCC head softball coach Scott Hill. Buckley will participate as a member of the 2012-13 Lady Warrior softball team. In addition to receiving their approved class schedules, students who attend orientation can reserve or check on the status of their dormitory rooms, and have photographs made for identification cards and the College yearbook. Additional orientation/registration sessions will be held Friday, June 22; Friday, July 13; and Friday, August 3. Classes begin Thursday, August 16. For more information contact Student Services at 601-635-6205. The e-mail address is . (EC Photo)

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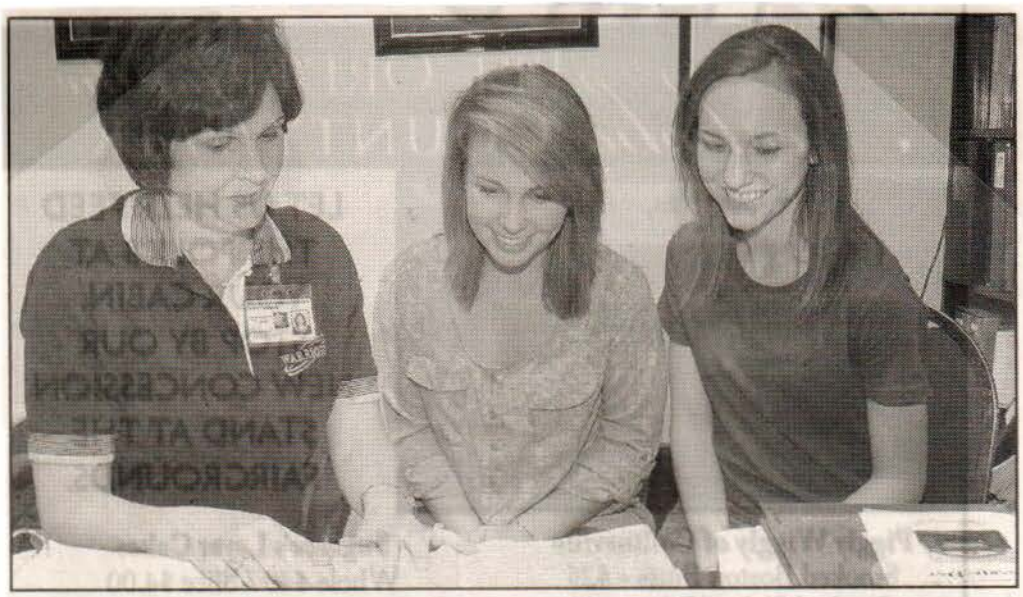

Attends EC orientation

East Central Community College associate degree nursing instructor Denita Thomas left, assists Hayden Stokes, center, a graduate of Winston Academy, and Neshoba Central High School graduate Hailey Smith with their fall class schedules during Dual Credit Enrollment/Orientation. (EC Photo)

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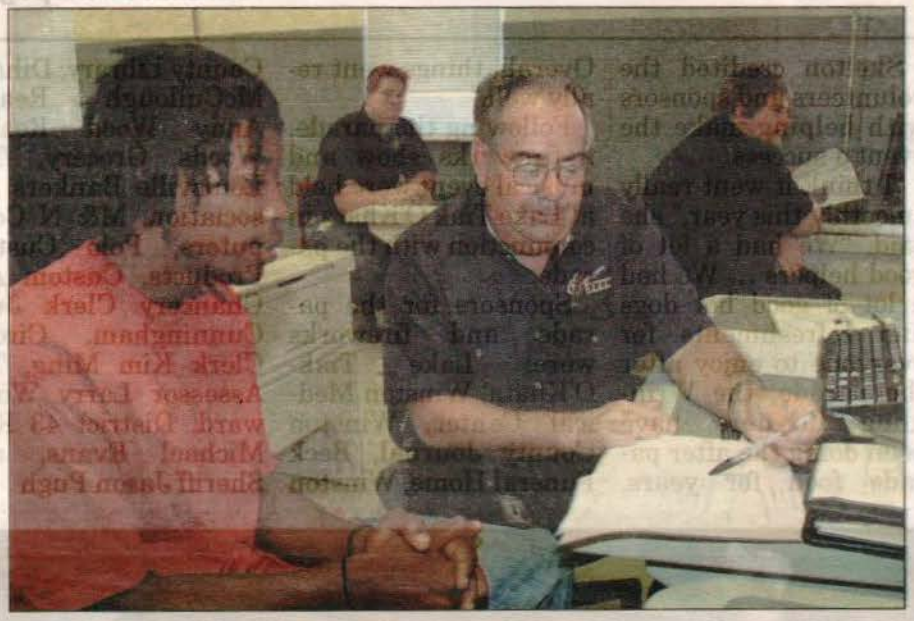
ECCC registers



Triplett Registers for ECCC Classes

Brandon Triplett (left), a graduate of Louisville High School, is shown preparing his fall class schedule with the assistance of East Central Community College welding instructor Gerald Jordan during registration/orientation activities held Friday, June 22, 2012, on the Decatur campus. In addition to receiving their approved class schedules, students who attend orientation can reserve or check on the status of their dormitory rooms and have photographs made for identification cards and the College yearbook. Additional orientation/registration sessions will be held Friday, July 13; and Friday, August 3. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 16. For more information contact Student Services at 601-635-6205. The e-mail address is rlee@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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July 8, 2012

Samuel Williams (right), a graduate of Newton County Academy, is shown preparing his fall class schedule with East Central Community College science department chairman/biology instructor Curt Skipper during registration/orientation activities June 22. Additional orientation/registration sessions will be held July 13 and Aug. 3. Fall classes begin Aug. 16. For more information contact Student Services at 601-635-6205. The e-mail address is rlee@eccc.edu.

(EC Photo)

ECCC orientation Friday

New and transfer students planning to attend fall 2012 classes at East Central Community College in Decatur are encouraged to attend summer orientation/registration on Friday, said Randall E. Lee, Vice President for Student Services.

An additional session will be held Aug. 3.

Prior to attending registration, students should have on file in the Office of Admissions a completed ECCC Application for Admission (located on the college website); ACT or COMPASS scores, which will be used for placement in English and mathematics courses; and high school/college transcripts. Transfer students must have all college transcripts on file before they can register.

"As in years past, students may arrive anytime between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. to register."

Randall E. Lee

"As in years past, students may arrive anytime between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. to register," Lee said. "Students who have completed the admissions process and have been accepted for admission should receive a letter in the mail instructing them on how to proceed on the day of orientation.

"Students who have not completed the application process are also welcome to attend and will begin the process in the Eddie M. Smith Student Union on the west side of campus."

On the day of registration/orientation, students will complete their fall class schedules, have photos made for identification badges and the college yearbook, apply for a parking decal (must have tag number), and complete the online orientation.

Students who have not taken either the ACT or COMPASS test should be prepared to take it at 8:30 a.m. on the day of registration. The cost is $20.

Lee added, "A complimentary meal will be served from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria for students and parents."

Fall classes begin Aug. 16.

For more information, contact Student Services at 601-635-6205. The e-mail address is rlee@eccc.edu.

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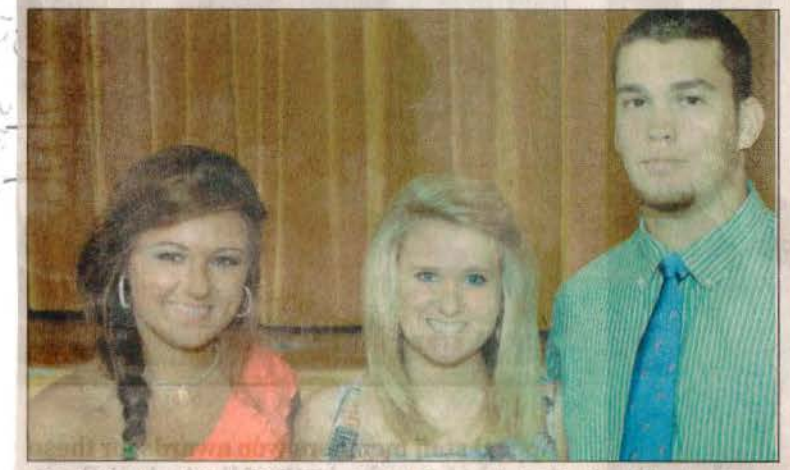
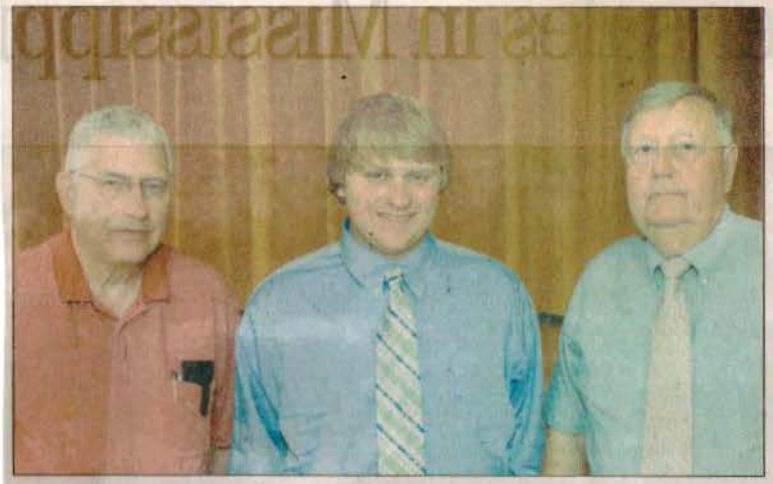
ECCC scholarship recipients



Recipients of the 2012 Harrison Memorial Scholarships at East Central Community College in Decatur included (from left) Jessica Parker and Caitlyn Sant, both of Newton County High School; and Kizer Ables of Newton County Academy.

Addreonna Seger (center), a graduate of Newton High School, is the recipient of the Ovid S. and Carol Vickers Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 1999 by former students and friends of the Vickers (also pictured) in honor of their lifetime of devotion to East Central.

Sophomore Bobbi Schwebel of Newton is the recipient of the Myrtle Hutchison Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. This scholarship is awarded to a member of the Student Education Association and was established by Myrtle Fikes Hutchison who retired from the field of education after a 30-year career.



Jeremy Carson (center) of Decatur is the 2012 recipient of the Richard L. Harris Scholarship. The scholarship was established in 2003 by Dr. Harold S. Aycock (left, Class of 1964) in honor of Richard Harris (right), his high school basketball coach at Hickory. Carson also received the Leon Eubanks Kaljye-Peers Leadership Scholarship, awarded to the incoming Student Body Association President, and the Robert G. Fick music scholarship, awarded to a sophomore music major.

Sophomore Tyler Gilmore (center), a graduate of Newton County High School, is the recipient of the Martha Kate Tullos Hummel Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Representing the donors are Don and Terraseta Hummel.

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East Central Community College sophomore Janet Ethridge (left) of Decatur is the recipient of the Aaron R. Davis Memorial Scholarship. Also pictured is Davis' widow, Patti Davis. The scholarship, presented annually to a sophomore science major, was established in 2006 by family and friends to honor the life and work of Ron Davis, who contributed 29 years to science education in the state of Mississippi. He served 19 years as a science instructor at ECCC and for 10 of those years served as department chairman.

Lindsey Ezelle (left) and Lauren Ezelle (second from left), both graduates of Newton County High School, are the recipients of the first annual Kyle Dunkerson Memorial Scholarships at East Central Community College in Decatur. They are pictured with Angela and Jody Kyzar, who, along with family and friends, established this scholarship in 2012 to honor the memory of their son, Kyle Dunkerson, who was a student at ECCC when he died in an automobile accident.

Emma Burton, a graduate of Union High School, is the recipient of the U.S. Electrical Motors Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Bryant Williams, a graduate of Newton County High School, is the recipient of the 2012 Johnson Family Engineering Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur.

The scholarship was established in memory of Lee E. Johnson and Lizzie Graham Johnson by their children.

WEEK OF July 8, 2012

Will Thompson (left), a graduate of Newton County High School, is the recipient of The Citizens Bank of Philadelphia Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. He is pictured with bank representative Ken Jones.

Sophomore Stephen May (left) of Leake Academy is the recipient of the Johnson-Taylor Memorial Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Also pictured is Susan Taylor of Decatur, who, along with her husband, Bruce, established the scholarship in 2008 to honor the memory of their parents, Elmer and Frances Johnson and Wilson and Marguerite Taylor.

Ashley Bozeman (left), a graduate of Newton County High School, is the recipient of the James E. Land Memorial Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Also pictured is Dr. Harold Aycock, who in 2003 established the scholarship in memory of James Land, who was his vocational agriculture teacher and FFA advisor at Hickory High School.

APPEARED IN:

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF July 8, 2012

East Central Community College sophomore Jamie Elliott (third from left) of Union High School is the recipient of the ECCC Class of 1964 Scholarship. Also pictured are donor representatives (from left) Dr. Harold Aycock, Jerald Everett and John Boutwell.

Tiana Grover (left), a graduate of Newton County Academy, is the recipient of the Alumni Association Lifetime Membership Endowed Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured with the recipient is ECCC Alumni Association President Bob Posey of Philadelphia. The scholarship was established in 2012 by the ECCC Alumni Association Board of Directors and is awarded annually to a returning sophomore who has earned a minimum 2.5 grade point average.

APPEARED IN:

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF July 8, 2012

East Central Commu
County High School is
tured at right) Nursin
nize Mrs. Crenshaw f

WHEREAS, on the 31st day of March, 2006 and acknowledged on the 31st day of March, 2006, Kenneth Wayne Densmore, and wife, Charlotte M. Densmore, executed and delivered a certain Deed of Trust unto Don O. Rogers, Trustee for

Haley Chapman, a graduate of Newton County High School, is the recipient of the James and Luvie Thomas EC Scholars Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. This scholarship was established to provide assistance to those in the top 10 percent of their graduating class.

Tanner Fortenberry, a graduate of Union High School, is the recipient of the Kinoth and Ella Mae Thornton and Emerson Electric Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established by the Thorntons and Emerson Electric in 1991 as a tribute to the College for its many positive contributions to the Thorntons' lives.

APPEARED IN:

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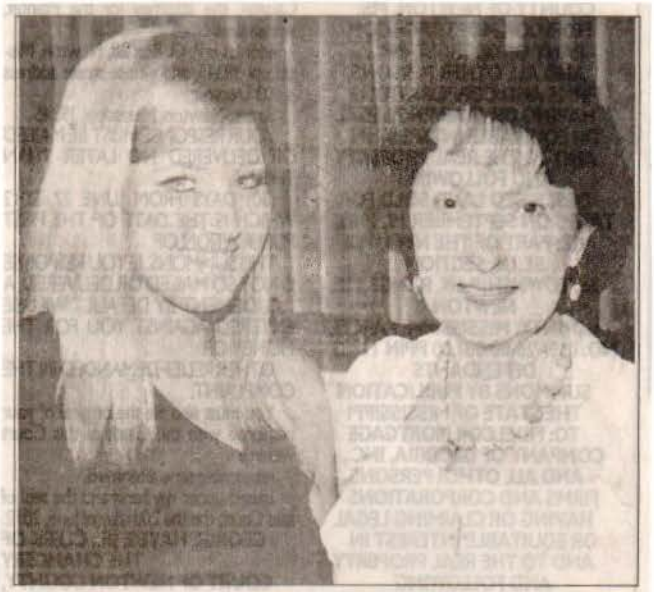
Week of July 8, 2012



Katie Brackeen (left), a graduate of Newton County High School, is the recipient of the Denver Brackeen Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Representing the donors is Brackeen's widow, Charlotte Brackeen. The scholarship was established in 2005 in appreciation, honor and recognition of Brackeen's service to ECCC by former men's basketball players who played under his tutelage from 1956 to 1963.

Appeared in:

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Newton County Appeal ✓

Spirit of Morton_____

Meridian Star_____

Neshoba Democrat_____

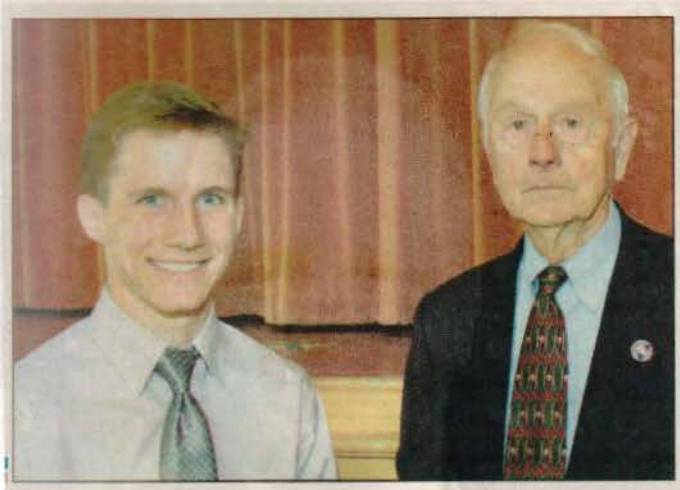
Scott County Times_____

Winston County Journal____

Clarion-Ledger_____

WEEK OF July 15, 2012

Scholarships announced



Russ Thompson (left), a graduate of Newton County High School, is the recipient of the Weems Family Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Representing the donors is Dr. W. Lamar Weems. This scholarship fund was established to commemorate the historical roles of the Weems Family of Scott County as members of the faculty, Board of Trustees and student body of East Central Community College.

Lynford Seibel of Lawrence recently won a scholarship from the Mississippi Poultry Foundation for the 2012-13 school year. Lynford is transferring to Mississippi State University from East Central Community College. He will major in poultry science at MSU. He is the son of Stanley and Rachel Seibel, who grow chickens for Tyson Foods.

Seibel was on the Dean's List at ECCC and an honor roll student at Lighthouse Christian Academy while in high school.

While at EC, he was Business Club president and active in the Environmental Club and Phi Beta Lambda.

The Mississippi Department of Transportation, together with the Mississippi Transportation Commission, recently awarded 21 scholarships to deserving students attending a Mississippi community college and seeking a transportation-related career.

Nolan Hendrix Thorne of Decatur, a graduate of Newton County High School, is one of this year's scholarship recipients.

He is currently enrolled at East Central Community College where he will pursue a degree in Environmental Studies.

Thorne is the son of Johnnie Thorne who works in MDOT's District Five

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WEEK OF July 15, 2012

Club hands out scholarships

Three Newton County residents received scholarships from the Friendship Breakfast Club last week.

Charles Curry, Polly Vaughn and Edward Holmes V, all recent graduates of East Central Community College, were honored by the organization at a meeting July 11.

Curry, of Newton, is a 1986 graduate of Newton High School.

He served four years in the Army and four years in an Army Reserve unit in Laurel. Curry said he returned to college after being laid off from Raytheon.

Charles Curry

At ECCC, he was a member of Phi Theta Kappa. He plans to attend MSU-Meridian, where he will seek a degree in Healthcare Administration.

Edward Holmes V

Holmes, of Decatur, is a graduate of Newton County Academy, where he was the school's valedictorian.

At EC, he was a member of Phi Theta Kappa and a Dean's list scholar. He plans to study architectural design and arts at MSU.

Polly Vaughn

Vaughn, of Decatur, is a graduate of Newton County High School.

At EC, she was involved in soccer, choir, Accents, and Phi Theta Kappa.

She plans to study vocal music at the University of Mobile.

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Graduation

WEEK OF July 22, 2012

All smiles for GED grad

Hope Dawn Skinner, Kenisha Monique Thomas, and Lawanda Studdie were just three of the 51 graduates crossing the stage during commencement ceremonies for the GED program at ECCC in Decatur July 19.

Bill Graham/ The Appeal

Kent Addy

Annie Delorise Holiday

WEEK OF July 22, 2012

THE TIMES/CHRIS ALLEN BAKER

STUDENT RECEIVES SCHOLARSHIP

The Citizens Bank and Scott Central Attendance Center presented Kimberly Rigby, far right, with a $500 scholarship award last week. The scholarship was based on Rigby's grades during her senior year. Rigby, a resident of the Piketon community, plans to attend East Central Community College and study criminal psychology. Presenting the scholarship was Debra Herring, principal at Scott Central, and Dymple Winstead of The Citizens Bank.

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WEEK OF July 29, 2012

Graduates earn diplomas

These Neshoba County residents received their high school equivalency diplomas at East Central Community College's GED Graduation ceremony held July 19 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Pictured are (first row, from left) Amanda Wheat and Vashika Goss, both of Philadelphia; Courtney Ivy, Union; Nikiya Cotton and Sharaya Shumake, both of Philadelphia; and (back row, from left) Ian Fortenberry, Brandon Miller, Dean Mattar, Ethan Walker and Kenisha Thomas, all of Philadelphia. New ECCC President Billy Stewart presented GED diplomas to approximately 50 graduates at the semi-annual event.

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WEEK OF July 29, 2012

These Newton County residents received their high school equivalency diplomas at East Central Community College's GED Graduation ceremony held July 19 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Pictured are (first row, from left) Michael Crowther and Jose Allende, both of Newton; Nancy Rainer, Lawrence; and Heather Vaughn, Little Rock; (second row, from left) Kent Addy, Decatur; Kristen Bryan, Philadelphia; and Latisha Johnson, Newton; and (third row, from left) Robert Payne, Union; Annie Holiday, Newton; Amber Waller, Decatur; and Sherry Wooten, Brandon.

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WEEK OF July 29, 2012

Scholarship awarded

Sophomore Amanda Barnett (left), a graduate of Union High School, is the recipient of the Jeffrey G. and Kathy L. Hitt Memorial Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Representing the donors are Gigi Hitt, Geraldine Hitt and Faye Henley.

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GED grads overcome obstacles

From school reports

Vashika Goss of Philadelphia said she always "dreamed" of the moment when she received her GED diploma.

That dream finally came true for the 37-year-old grandmother who was among the approximately 50 students who received diplomas from East Central Community College President Billy Stewart at the GED graduation held recently in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus.

Goss, a certified nursing assistant for Support Living, Inc., was one of two graduates who provided testimonials during the semi-annual ceremony.

During her remarks, Goss said "it took 19 years to get here," mainly due to various setbacks in her life.

"Nobody knows what it cost me to get where I am today... the stumbling blocks, hardships, disappointments, all the struggles and all the losses," she said while holding back tears. "Everything that could happen to stop me happened, but I did not allow life to dictate my success or my future."

"With every hardship, disappointment and stumbling block," she said, "God always saw me out of it because I was determined to achieve my diploma, no matter what the cost. I always dreamed of this moment, and now God has allowed my dream to come true."

One of the "obstacles" Goss faced was while a student at Neshoba Central High School.

"I got married in July 1992 when I was 17, just before my senior year," she said. "The following March I found out I was pregnant. As any mother would be, I was happy, but I had no idea what was about to happen. I didn't count the costs before I decided to make such a major decision. I was working fulltime, going to school fulltime and I was pregnant. I got to where I had to give up something — it couldn't be the job because I was married on my own with a mortgage, bills and a car note. I ended up dropping out of school six months before graduation."

By dropping out of school, Goss said she missed out on several college scholarship opportunities due to her 3.5 grade average. But as she stated, "I had everything going for me, and I chose to give it all up."

Vashika Goss

So for the past 19 years, Goss said she "struggled" just to survive.

"But because God was there," Goss said, "I did make it. There were times I did not know how I would pay the rent or buy food...it was always one dead-end job right behind the other. I was always walking off jobs or hearing the boss say, 'I've got to let you go.' Then there were times I had to work two jobs at a time just to make ends meet. I thought I knew everything, and I knew nothing."

To add to her situation, Goss said she was diagnosed with a lung ailment in 2007, but after "treatments and prayer" her lungs were declared "perfect" following an examination in January 2011.

Goss, who took GED classes at Philadelphia and Decatur locations, said she would not have succeeded without the encouragement of others.

"I thank God for my instructors and their hard work and dedication, and for believing in me when I didn't believe in myself. I thank God for my biggest cheerleader of all, my mother (Margaret Ann Cullum). We didn't always see eye-to-eye, but she believed in me and provided encouragement," she said.

Goss also thanked her former pastor, the Rev. Kenneth Clark, who "pushed me to obtain my GED after many years of giving up. He told me of his testimony in receiving the GED...and then he encouraged me to go forward."

She gave credit to Barbara Booker, one of her instructors, for encouraging her take the GED test.

"If she had never push me to take the test, only G knows how long I would ha waited," she commented.

Goss also thanked instr tors, Virginia Kite "for laughs and talks we shar during class and the consta reminders that I had wha took to succeed," and Glo and Larry Harms, "for th help with algebra and geom try....they were so pati with me, and for that I thankful!"

Now that she has receiv her GED, Goss said she ch lenges others who may ne to obtain their high sch equivalency diploma.

"I didn't just come here receive something," she sa "but I also came here to g something. Today I came encourage, provoke and pu others to move forward...a to move forward unafra and trust God to see through to the end."

She is married to T Goss and they have th daughters, Kiana, LaKen and Gabrielle. She also has infant granddaughter, A Marie Hunter.

They attend Tabernacl Praise Church of God Christ.

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Organizations/Clubs

WEEK OF August 5, 2012

ECCC campus leaders

Pictured above are 2012-2013 student government officers at East Central Community College in Decatur. Students and their respective high schools include (front row, from left) Erin Thornton of Walnut Grove, SBA treasurer; and Shamiski Collier of Philadelphia, SBA secretary and (back row, from left) Jeremy Carson, Student Body Association (SBA) president; and Hannah Farmer, SBA vice president, both of Decatur. Director of Housing/Student Activities Marcie Pinson serves as sponsor. (EC Photo)

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August 12, 2012

ECCC WINS AT PBL NATIONALS

Students representing East Central Community College in Decatur received honors at the Phi Beta Lambda National Leadership Conference held earlier this summer in San Antonio, Texas. Kayla Dickerson of Union, second from left, placed 12th in Sales Presentation and Tori McInnis, also of Union, (far right) finished 12th in Strategic Analysis and Decision Making. Also representing ECCC were chapter adviser Thomas Fortenberry, left, and his son, participant Tanner Fortenberry, center, and adviser Stella Dickerson, all of Union. Tanner Fortenberry qualified for national competition after winning first-place honors in Business Presentation at the state contest. Not pictured is Rachel Alexander of Philadelphia, who placed 10th in Local Chapter Annual Business Report. Students who place first or second in their respective categories on the state level advance to the national contest. Thomas Fortenberry was also recognized as PBL Adviser of the Year in Mississippi. Phi Beta Lambda is an organization for business students.

Submitted photo

Events

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COUNTY TIMES ____

COUNTY JOURNAL ____

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WEEK OF August 19, 2012

• DECATUR – Several area high school graduating seniors were awarded scholarships to East Central Community College at the annual AT&T Scholarship Awards Program held in Huff Auditorium. A luncheon was held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria following the awards ceremony.

Castlebeery

Killen

Herrington

During the 2012 event, 136 students received 111 endowed or annual scholarships totaling approximately $74,000 in value. Local honorees were: **Kennedy Castleberry**, a graduate of Clarkdale High School, recipient of the Pleas Clayton and Nancy Breazeale Blount Scholarship; **Colt Killen**, a graduate of Neshoba Central High School, recipient of the Dan Harrison Rush Health Systems Memorial Scholarship; and **Madison Herrington**, a graduate of Union High School, recipient of the Wallace Strickland Rush Health Systems Scholarship

~~Here's a look at upcoming events at East Central Community College, Decatur:~~

~~• Friday – Registration concludes for evening and day classes for the fall 2012 term.~~

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WEEK OF August 19, 2012

Practical nurse grads

East Central Community College recognized graduates of its Practical Nursing program during the annual pinning ceremony held July 31 in the Vickers Fine Arts Center on the Decatur campus. Completing the 12-month program were (first row, from left) Michelle Call, Meridian; Morgan Coleman, Carthage; Lara Elliott, Nanih Waiya; Suzy Lane, Philadelphia; and Kim Traxler, Polkville; and (standing from left) Patience Haynes, Noxapater; and Tami Godwin, Chunky, who are shown with Practical Nursing instructors Alicia Lundstrom, Theresa Cole and Melanie Pinter. Suzy Lane was recognized as Practical Nursing Student of the Year and served as speaker. Also serving as program participants were ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart, welcome and comments; Vice President of Instruction Dr. Teresa Houston, introduction of faculty; Dean of Healthcare Education Denita Thomas, presentation of graduates; and graduates Morgan Coleman, invocation; and Lara Elliott, benediction. Graduates will begin their new careers after passing state board examinations scheduled later this year. For more information on the College's health-related programs, contact Denita Thomas, Dean of Healthcare Education, 601-635-6294 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 294. The email address is dthomas@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF August 19, 2012

Wall O'Sound takes the field Aug. 30

East Central Community College's Wall O' Sound Marching Band held its Fall Exhibition Aug. 11 before a large crowd of supporters who gathered near the band practice field for a first look of the 2012 group, led by new Director of Bands Hunter Corhern and assistant Ed Girling. The Wall O' Sound will present its first halftime show in 2012 when the Warriors host Itawamba Community College Aug. 30. Kickoff is set for 6:30 p.m. at Bailey Stadium on the Decatur campus.

EC photos

Members of the East Central Community College Centralettes, the dance line for the Wall O' Sound Marching Band for 2012-13, include (front row, from left) Brook Massey, Winston Academy; Emma Burton, Union; Kayla Covington, Nanih Waiya; Jayohnnie Slaughter, Newton County; Abbie Smith, Louisville; Hannah Farmer, Newton County; Kendall Taylor, Central Academy, Macon; Lauren Daniels and Hillary Williams, both of Neshoba Central; Taylor Gressett, Newton County; and Kara Beth Johnson, Morton; and (back row, from left) Kasey Logan, Lake; Samantha Ellingburg, Newton County; Tori McInnis, Union; Emily Gully, Sylva Bay Academy, Bay Springs; Ashley Milner, Pillow Academy, Greenwood; Emilee Cox, Forest; Kara Miller, Newton County Academy; Kelsey Cox, Forest; Kenya Hickman, Louisville; and Caitlyn Sant, Newton County. Nichol Hillman serves as coordinator/choreographer.

WEEK OF August 26 2012

Addreonna Seger

Holli Nutt

Claire Griffin

Seger named Editor of The Tom-Tom

Nutt, Griffin Assist in Leading Newspaper Staff

Taking the helm as editor of East Central Community College's student newspaper, The Tom-Tom, is Addreonna Seger of Lawrence for the 2012-13 school year.

"I am very excited about this position and hope to lead the newspaper staff in a professional manner while also representing the students' voices of ECCC," Seger said.

A sophomore English major, she is a second-year member of The Tom-Tom staff. Seger has had additional work twice published in the World Poetry Movement.

The honor student was recently awarded the Ovid S. & Carol Vickers Scholarship.

She is also a member of the Art Club.

This summer, Seger served as an intern for Organizing for America for the State of Mississippi, working for President Barack Obama as a part of his grassroots campaign for re-election.

Joining Seger in leading The Tom-Tom is Design Editor Holli Nutt of Morton. This is Nutt's second year to serve on newspaper staff and will be her second semester overseeing the design layout of the student newspaper.

She is a sophomore poultry science major. She is a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, where she serves as vice president for public relations. Nutt is a member of the Wo-He-Lo yearbook staff, East Central Environmental Club, Astronomy Club, Warrior Corps, and Diamond Darlings. She is also a member of the State Champion Scott County 4-H Poultry Judging Team and will compete nationally this spring in Kentucky.

Serving as cartoonist for The Tom-Tom is Claire Griffin of Decatur. This is Griffin's second year to work with the student newspaper in this capacity.

She is a sophomore liberal arts major. She is the president of Phi Theta Kappa honor society, president of the sophomore class, an assistant editor of the Wo-He-Lo, and a member of the Student Body Association, Ac'cents show choir, Baptist Student Union, Diamond Darlings and Concert Choir.

Publications coordinator Gennie Phillips of Forest serves as adviser for The Tom-Tom.

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WEEK OF September 2, 2012

Registers for ECCC classes

Tyeshia Houston, left, of Philadelphia and Breanna Foley center, a graduate of Newton County High School, are shown receiving assistance from East Central Community College Workforce Education Counselor Amanda Walton following registration for fall classes, which began Thursday, Aug. 16. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

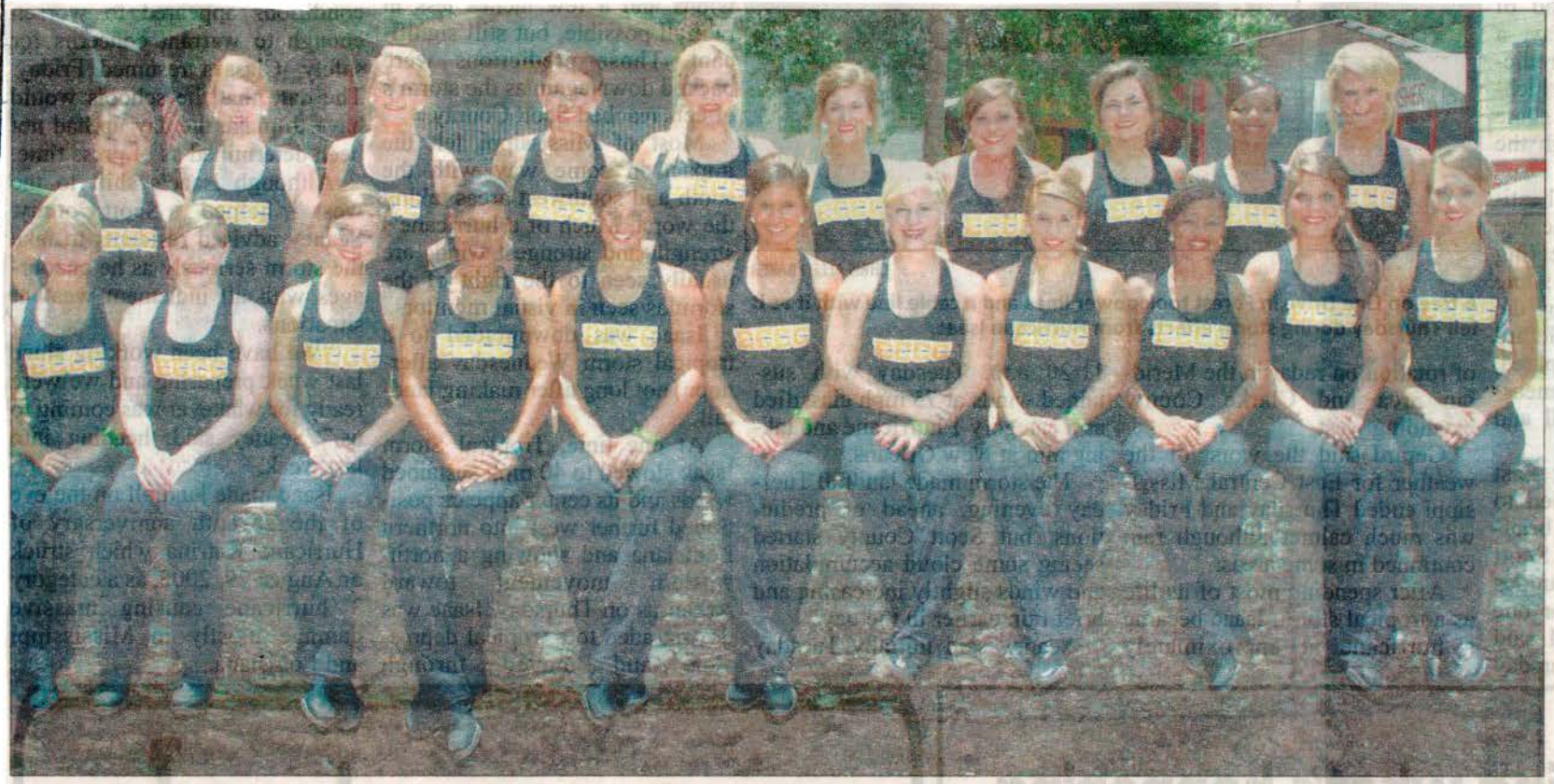
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF September 2, 2012



ECCC PHOTO

2012 ECCC CENTRALETTES

Members of the East Central Community College Centralettes, the dance line for the Wall O' Sound Marching Band for 2012-13, include (front row, from left) Brook Massey, Winston Academy; Emma Burton, Union; Kayla Covington, Nanih Waiya; Jayohnnie Slaughter, Newton County; Abbie Smith, Louisville; Hannah Farmer, Newton County; Kendall Taylor, Central Academy, Macon; Lauren Daniels and Hillary Williams, both of Neshoba Central; Taylor Gressett, Newton County; and Kara Beth Johnson, Morton; and (back row, from left) Kasey Logan, Lake; Samantha Ellingburg, Newton County; Tori McInnis, Union; Emily Gully, Sylva Bay Academy, Bay Springs; Ashley Milner, Pillow Academy, Greenwood; Emilee Cox, Forest; Kara Miller, Newton County Academy; Kelsey Cox, Forest; Kenya Hickman, Louisville; and Caitlyn Sant, Newton County. Nichol Hillman serves as coordinator/choreographer. Hunter Corhern serves as director of bands and Ed Girling is assistant director.

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ____
CLARION-LEDGER ____
NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ____
SPIRIT OF MORTON ____
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ECCC Band Presents 'And Let There Be Rock'

The 2012 version of the East Central Community College Wall O' Sound Marching Band continues to wow the crowds with its halftime presentation of "And Let There Be Rock," a show first-year ECCC Director of Bands Hunter Corhern said "represents a style of music from the 1970s called jazz fusion, featuring jazz rhythms and horn lines with rock backgrounds."

Selections include "Open Up Wide" by the Bill Chase Band, "Getaway" and "September" from Earth, Wind, and Fire; "Jungle Boogie" by Kool and the Gang, "25 or 6 to 4" by Chicago and "Lady" by Styx.

"'And Let There Be Rock,' features several of our band members and sections, especially the Centralettes and percussion," said Corhern. "I hope everyone will come out and support our Warriors this season and cheer them on with the Wall O' Sound!"

In his first year at the helm of the Wall O' Sound, Corhern takes over a tradition-rich program begun by Thomas W. Carson, who recently retired after 30

Hunter Corhern

is a member of Kappa Delta Pi and Phi Kappa Phi honor societies. Additionally, he has served as Director of Facilitators for the Mississippi Hugh O'Brien Youth (HOBY) Leadership Seminar since 2009.

He is married to the former Leah Vincent of Brandon and they have an infant son, Nicholas.

Ed Girling is beginning his third year as assistant band director at ECCC and has more than 30 years experience in music education.

Ed Girling

He is past president of the East Central Mississippi Band Directors' Association, past president of the Mississippi Private School Band Directors' Association and is the founder and former director of the Scott County Honor Band.

He is a graduate of Pass Christian High School and holds the bachelor and master's of music education degrees from Delta State University.

He and his wife, Karen Girling, who serves as Band Director at Carthage High School, have one daughter, Anna.

Nichol Hillman is

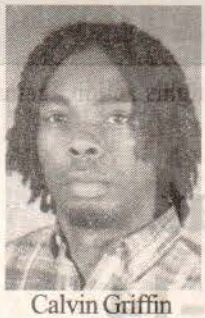
She is a graduate of Georgetown High School

Janie Mayfield

and Lee University.

She has three children: Jamie, Keri Ann, and Jase.

Serving his second year as twirler instructor is Calvin Griffin of



Calvin Griffin

Carthage. He is a graduate of Carthage High School and is the son of Calvin and Jennifer Davis.

Wall O' Sound Band members and their respective high schools include:

Raven Bane, Tiffany Benson, Heather Bradley, Tanya Burnside, Lucas Calvert, Denzel Clemons, Lauren Daniels, Chad Dorman, Samantha Farley, Katie Fedrick, Kayla Greer, Whitney Jenkins, Jonathan Keep, Sam Kristen Felton, Bo Foster, Julien Gillis, Tyler Gilmore, Taylor Gressett, Livi Harrison, Colton Hurst, Emily Jacome-Cluff, Sarah LaBue, Melissa Manues, Amanda Packer, Ryan Packer, Magen Pierce, Caitlyn Sant, Jayohnnie Slaughter and Chandler Smith, all of Newton County; Jeremiah Chapman, Shamaine Jones, Jasmine Pickens and Javossiya Walker, all of Newton; Kara Miller and Jamey Tune, both of Newton County Academy; Jessie Armstrong, Hannah Cade, Georgia Doner, Gareth Driskill, Tarra Gibson and Courtney Mackey, all of West Lauderdale; Adriene Alderson, Emma Burton, Cortney Drummond, Thomas Justice, Matthew Mason, Tori McInnis, Beth Price, Ashley Swearingen, Mallory Wilkerson and Nathan Williams, all of Union; Lorraina Burkes, Kelsey Cox, Emilee Cox, Leslie Graham and Ryan McClendon, all of Forest; William Milner, Samson Pace, Beunca Patrick and Thomoz Smith, all of Scott Central; Abagail Buitrago, Jade Castillo, Chauncey Griffin, Kara Beth Johnson, Gloriana Latham, Sharde Mays, Jose Pereira, Maria Todd, Avery Ward and Shawn Windham, all of Morton; Jacob Emmons, Dustin Fisher, Matthew Graham, Kasey Logan and Brianna Parkman, all of Lake; Hunter Brooks and Rob Parker, both of Puckett; Katie Butler and Danette Harris, both of Brandon: Conor Bell, Mattie

CLARION-LEDGER

years at ECCC to continue his battle against cancer.

"I'm appreciative of the opportunity I've been given to work with the Wall O' Sound. I spoke with Mr. Carson about the history of the program and his experiences with it. I am truly following in the footsteps of a legend, not only at East Central, but in the State of Mississippi," Corhern said. "Our objective is to continue that success and see if we can add to it."

Corhern previously served as a graduate assistant at Missouri State University, where he was selected 2012 Outstanding Teaching Graduate Assistant. From 2008-2012 he served as band director at Starkville Academy.

Corhern is a graduate of Starkville Academy and received his bachelor's degree from Mississippi State University and his master's degree from Missouri State University. He is a former chapter president of Lambda Phi Chapter of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia and the Society of Scholars honor society at Mississippi State University and serving her seventh year as ECCC Centralette Coordinator/Choreographer.

Nichol Hillman

She is a graduate of Newton County High School, ECCC and the University of Southern Mississippi, where she received the bachelor's of fine arts in dance education.

She is married to Brandon Hillman of Little Rock and they have four children: Tucker, Will, Jesse and Ayda.

Janie Mayfield begins her third year as color guard coordinator. She previously served as a head coach and director of competitive gymnastics teams, coached and sponsored coed high school cheerleading squads, and choreographed cheerleading and gymnastics routines for competition.

Lovorn, Chris Lyons, Eden McGee, Meghan McPherson, Zach Peden, Joshua Richardson, Jermaine Russell, Austin Savell, Jason Savell, Dalton Sellers, Charles Taylor, Adrian Tucker, Katherine Upchurch, Jonathan Warren, Brandon Warrick, Hillary Williams and Leslie Young, all of Neshoba Central; Corey Burton, a homeschooled student from Philadelphia; Tyieasha Evans, Zyron Jones and Damien Lewis, all of Philadelphia; ShyAnna Bell, Jacob King and Danielle Shelley, all of Sebastopol; Bronson Henderson, Choctaw Central; Sandy Alexander, Ben Avera, Jon' Marie Baucum, Hannah Berryhill, Brooke Boyd, Ashley Bozeman, Katie Bradley, Michael Buntyn, Robin Coker, Jeremy Dade, Brandon Davis, Samantha Ellingburg, Hannah Farmer, Brooks, Aaliyah Cook, Emily Crane, Destiny Crawford, Cody Jenkins, Kayla Lawrence, Maranda McDaniel, Kasia McQueen, Jessica Moore, Thomas Reeves, Maryanna Sikes, Turner Stevens, Nick Willis and Dillon Evans, all of Leake Central; Kenya Hickman, Rosie Hickman, Brecia Hornesburger, Kayla Jenkins, Chris Mays, Xavier Rodgers, Abbie Smith, Mark Staszefski, Jake Thompson and Vacinte Young, all of Louisville; Kayla Covington, Nanih Waiya; Emily Gully, Sylva Bay Academy; Brooke Massey, Winston Academy' Ashley Milner, Greenwood;Kendall Taylor, Central Academy; Brittany Gilmer, Ridgeland; Emily Woodward, Cleveland; Mark Beasley, Leake County; and Jeremy Sullivan, Independence High School in Springhill, TN.

WEEK OF September 9, 2012

ECCC Wo-He-Lo Yearbook Editors for 2012-13

Editors of the 72nd edition of the *Wo-He-Lo* yearbook of East Central Community College in Decatur were recently announced. Pictured are, front row from left, assistant editors Kayla Jenkins of Louisville, Madison Herrington of Union, Payton Smith of Forest, Hannah Jones of Philadelphia; and back row from left, co-editors Jessica Barnett of Forest and Erin Wooten of Carthage; and assistant editors Conor Bell of Carthage, Claire Griffin of Decatur, and Candice Stewart of Morton.

Wo-He-Lo announces Co-Editors Barnett, Wooten

Editors of the 72nd edition of the *Wo-He-Lo* yearbook of East Central Community College in Decatur were recently announced by Publications Coordinator Gennie Phillips. The co-editors are Jessica Barnett of Forest and Erin Wooten of Carthage.

"Erin and I are really excited about this school year and what it has in store for all of us here at ECCC," Barnett said. "We are revamping the look of the book and hope the students, administration, faculty and staff will really like the end product."

The co-editors have already begun the planning process for the upcoming yearbook and have been meeting with staff members to prepare for the publication.

"We have been working hard to get preliminary plans made for the yearbook," Wooten said. "We are looking forward to meeting other incoming freshmen and students who are interested in being a part of the yearbook staff and capturing memories here with us."

Phillips, who serves as adviser for yearbook and newspaper staffs, said there will be a panel of assistant editors who will be helping Barnett and Wooten with editorial duties.

Assistant editors include freshmen Payton Smith of Forest, Connor Bell of Carthage, Madison Herrington of Union, Kayla Jenkins of Louisville, Hannah Jones of Philadelphia and Candice Stewart of Morton; and sophomore Claire Griffin of Decatur.

"We have a great year ahead and look forward to having the staff come together to best capture the 2012-13 school year," Phillips said.

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September 4, 2012

APPEARED IN: CARTHAGINIAN ___ NEWTON COUNTY TIMES ___ SPIRIT OF MOUNTY JOURNAL ___ MERIDIAN STAR DGER ___

ECCC announces drum majors

From school reports

Sophomore Jacob King of Sebastopol begins his first year as head drum major of the East Central Community College Wall O' Sound.

He is a graduate of Sebastopol High School, where he received All-Superior ratings during state marching competition.

He served as assistant drum major his freshman year at East Central and currently serves as Band President.

He is the son of Terran and Adam King of Sebastopol.

Serving as assistant drum majors are Courtney Mackey of Meridian, Emily Jacome-Cluff of Hickory and Nathan Williams of Union.

Mackey is serving her first year as assistant drum major after having served two years as head drum major.

She is a sophomore and graduate of West Lauderdale High School, where she was selected All-Superior Drum Major and received the Best in Class award during the Chunky River Marching Festival.

She is the daughter of Jay and Teresa Mackey of Meridian.

A freshman, Jacome-Cluff is serving her first year as assistant drum major. She is a graduate of Newton County High School where she served as drum major and was rated All-Superior during state competition.

She is the daughter of Kelly and Carla Jacome-Cluff.

Williams is also a freshman and is serving his first year as assistant drum major.

He is a graduate of Union High School where he was an All-Superior drum major and named Best in Class durin the West Lauderdale Marc ing Festival.

He is the son of Robin an Tammy Williams of Union.

Jacob King

Emily Jacome-Cluff

Nathan Williams

Courtney Mackey

WEEK OF September 9, 2012

ECCC CNA Grads

Thanks to a grant provided by the U.S. Department of Labor with assistance from The Montgomery Institute, four recent East Central Community College Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) graduates have been awarded scholarships to help them "move up" the healthcare ladder. Once completing the CNA program, these participants had to register with the state of Mississippi as a CNA, meet the requirements for the Practical Nursing program, and be accepted into the program. The healthcare grant will continue to assist them as they continue their studies in the ECCC Practical Nursing Program by providing the participants with full scholarships for the program. The healthcare grant participants were led through the healthcare ladder program with the assistance of Candy Anderson, RN, BSN, CNA Program Coordinator and Healthcare Grant Navigator. Participants who were awarded scholarships are pictured from left, Candy Anderson, CNA Program Coordinator, Deborah Williams and Tina McMullan, both of Decatur, Brooklynn Boyette of Noxapater, and Megan Howington of Little Rock. Upcoming class dates for the Decatur Campus are September 10 and October 15, 2012; and September 10 for Louisville. For more information on the eligibility requirements for this training or other services being offered at the facility, contact Anderson, Phone 601-635-6430 or Joey Kenna, ECCC Community Development Facilitator, Phone 601-635-6403; email, canderson@eccc.edu <mailto:canderson@eccc.edu> or jkenna@eccc.edu <mailto:jkenna@eccc.edu> ; or visit us on the web, www.eccc.edu/workforce <http://www.eccc.edu/workforce> . (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WEEK OF September 16, 2012

Neshoba County Wall O' Sound band members

East Central Community College Wall O' Sound Band members from Neshoba County and their respective hometowns include front row, from left, Joshua Richardson, Preston; Tanya Burnside, Collinsville; Kayla Greer, Hillary Williams and Lauren Daniels, all of Philadelphia; second row, from left, Corey Burton, Heather Bradley, Whitney Jenkins, Katherine Upchurch and Eden McGee, all of Philadelphia; Adrian Tucker, Conehatta; and Zyron Jones, Philadelphia; third row, from left, Meghan McPhereson and Raven Bane, both of Union; Denzel Clemons and Jermaine Russell, both of Philadelphia; and Charles Taylor, Preston; fourth row, from left, Samantha Farley, Carthage; Katie Fedrick and Tyieasha Evans, both of Philadelphia; Tiffany Benson, Union; and Zach Peden, Philadelphia; fifth row, from left, Brandon Warrick, Philadelphia; Nick Willis, Carthage; Austin Savell and Damien Lewis, both of Philadelphia; and Cortney Drummond, Union; and sixth row, from left, Jason Savell, Chris Lyons, Jonathan Warren and Sam Lovorn, all of Philadelphia; and Chad Dorman, Union. (EC Photo)

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

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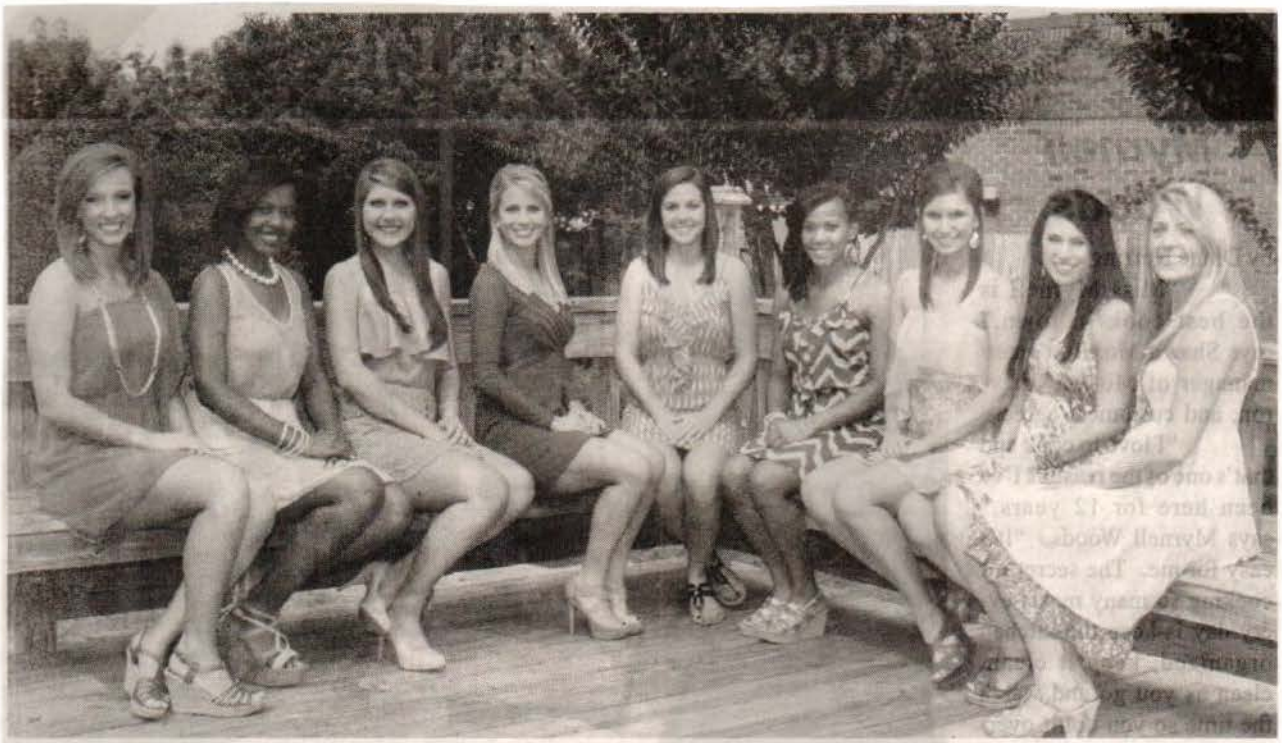
WEEK OF September 16, 2012



ECCC Homecoming Court

Above are members of the 2012 East Central Community College Homecoming Court, who were selected following elections held recently on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are freshman maids Payton Smith of Forest, a graduate of Scott Central High School; Jayohnnie Slaughter of Union and Taylor Gressett of Chunky, both graduates of Newton County High School; and Brooke Massey of Noxapater, a Winston Academy graduate; queen Erin Thornton of Madden, a graduate of Newton County High School; maid of honor LaJoya Griffin of Philadelphia High School; and sophomore maids Hannah Farmer of Decatur, a Newton County High School graduate; and Lauren Daniels and Jordan Clearman, both of Philadelphia and graduates of Neshoba Central High School. The queen and her court will be presented during Homecoming activities scheduled Saturday, September 29. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF September 16, 2012

ECCC cheer squad

Leading cheers for East Central Community College's football and basketball squads for 2012-13 are first row, from left, Heather Johnson and Lauren Ezelle, both products of Newton County High School; Laken Fulcher, Nanih Waiya; Lindsey McCool, Winston Academy; Mary Margaret Bailey, Philadelphia; Madison Stringer and Jordyn Landry, both of Newton County; and back row, from left, Alex Hollingsworth, Newton County; Hannah Smith, Leake Academy; Lindsey Ezelle and David Williams, both of Newton County; Darin Hillman, Sebastopol; Maxey Parker (Warrior Chief Mascot), Noxapater; Hannah Kemp, Leake Academy; Payton Smith, Scott Central; and Madison Herrington, Union. Pam McKnight of Forest begins her first year as cheer coach. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF September 23, 2012

ECCC yearbook wins state honors

The 2011-12 *Wo-He-Lo* yearbook of East Central Community College in Decatur won a first place award, a third place and a fourth place in categorical competition against other state community college yearbooks.

Awards were announced from the annual statewide community college yearbook competition.

"The staff and I were pleased with the results of the yearbook competition and especially proud that our theme 'Define EC' won first place in its category," Gennie Phillips, publications coordinator and adviser for the yearbook, said.

"The yearbook staff worked diligently to produce a high quality book that could compete with other community colleges around the state, and that is just what they did."

Phillips said the staff chose the theme and incorporated it throughout the publication.

MOORE

"Co-editors Ashley Moore of Carthage and Raychal Reed of Louisville did an exceptional job leading the staff from last year," Phillips said.

"We look forward to taking these results and improving upon them for this year's yearbook."

The *Wo-He-Lo* also placed third in the category of cover design and fourth in copy. The publication finished sixth in the state overall.

Moore is the daughter of Jimmy and Judy Moore and is a graduate of Leake Academy.

APPEARED IN:

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NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF September 30, 2012

ECCC RA

ECCC Residence Council

Pictured above are 2012-2013 residence council members at East Central Community College in Decatur. Residence assistants include (front row, from left) Jayohnnie Slaughter of Union, Lorraina Burkes of Forest and Allie Killens of Saltillo; and (back row, from left) Shyanna Bell of Forest, Lucas Calvert and Stanley Foster, both of Louisville; and I'Oshore May of Carthage. Not pictured are Justin Nutt of Morton and Hunter Graham of Clarkdale. Director of Housing/Student Activities Marcie Pinson serves as sponsor. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

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WEEK OF October 14, 2012

ECCC honors new Phi Theta Kappa members

Approximately 50 students were welcomed as new members of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, during the annual fall induction ceremony held recently in the Vickers Fine Arts Center at ECCC.

Amanda Walton, who serves as Theta Xi co-adviser with biology instructor Curt Skipper, said the 51 inductees "represent one of largest groups honored for a fall induction ceremony."

Skipper said the fall 2012 inducted class is the largest group to join the prestigious honor society during the five years he has served as an adviser.

Inductees include Mary Bailey, Michael Clark, Dylan Peden, Hailey Smith, Savannah Stuart-Dahl, Elauren Vowell, Clinton Baker, Johnny Beamon, Zachary Thrasher, Judson Bounds, Kelsey Bounds, Michael Buntyn, Jennifer Collins, Sonya McKee, Julie Myers, Magen Pierce Wesley Robinson, Paula Bounds, Alicia Boykin, Justin Nutt, Meghan Schmidt, Casey Bryant, Cashmere Dawson, Barbara Hodges, Kimberly Leflore, Crystal Roland, Brandon Sellers, Caitlan Dearman, Wanda Harrison, William Stevens, Heather Down Lucretia Gaddis, Christy Gibb Peggy Sims, Kelvin Ball, Kier Griffin, Kyle Henson, Mitzi Kir Melissa Manues, Aaron Ros Elisabeth Mayes, James Parke Colby Rigdon, Kimberly Roun Andrea McSwain, Hol Schneller, Chandler Smith, Ru Thomson, Will Thompson, Silv Viana Carvalho, and Dust Watkins.

Saturday, Oct. 27
Junior College Football
2 — Gulf Coast at East Central
Prep Soccer
TBA — ECCC Jamboree (Newton County entered)

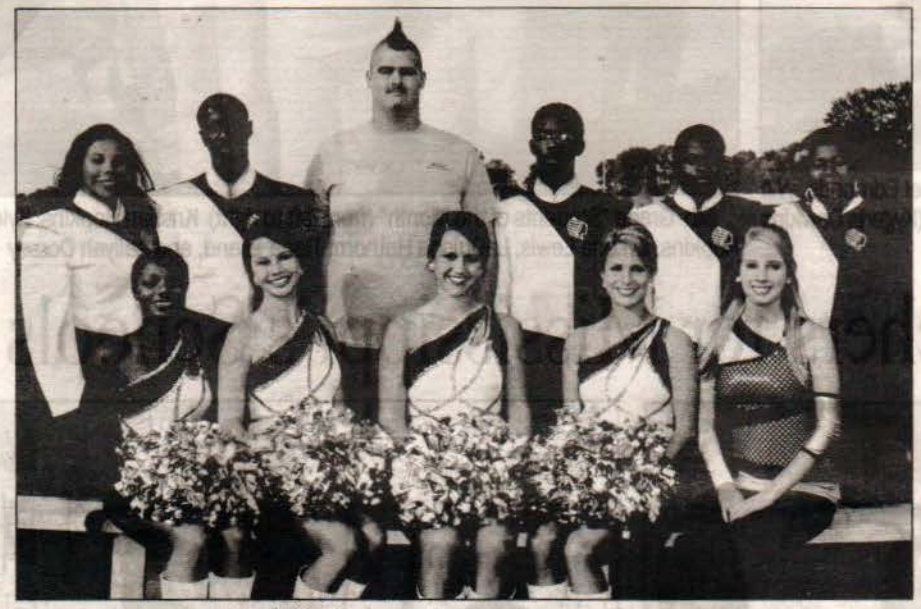
Thursday, Oct. 18
Junior College Football
6:30 — Pearl River at East Central

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____
NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL √x3
SPIRIT OF MORTON _____
MERIDIAN STAR _____
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____
CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF October 14, 2012

ECCC Wall



Winston County Wall O' Sound Members

East Central Community College students from Winston County who are members of the 2012 Wall O' Sound Marching Band include (front row, from left) Kenya Hickman, Louisville, Kayla Covington, Nanih Waiya; Abbie Smith, Louisville; Brooke Massey, Winston Academy; and Kayla Jenkins, Louisville; and (back row, from left) Rosie Hickman, Xavier Rodgers, Mark Staszefski, Vacinte Young, Chris Mays and Brecia Hornesbuger, all of Louisville; Hunter Corhern serves as Director of Bands. Additional staff members include Ed Girling, assistant band director/percussion instructor; Nichol Hillman, Centralettes coordinator/choreographer; Janie Mayfield, color guard coordinator; and Calvin Griffin, twirler instructor. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF October 14, 2012

PTK at ECCC

Five East Central Community College students from Leake County were tapped for membership into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa during induction ceremony Tuesday, Oct. 9, in the Vickers Fine Arts Center in Decatur, including, from left, Wanda Harrison of Walnut Grove and Poshore May of Carthage; back Cashmere Dawson of Carthage, Turner Stevens of Madden and Brandon Sellers of Carthage. Phi Theta Kappa is the international honor society for two-year colleges.

APPEARED IN:

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF October 14, 2012

ECCC Wall O' Sound color guard

Members of the 2012 Wall O' Sound Band Color Guard at East Central Community College in Decatur include front, from left, Shyanna Bell, Sebastopol; Shamaine Jones and Jasmine Pickens, both of Newton; Tiffany Benson, Neshoba Central; Lorraina Burkes, Forest; Katherine Upchurch, Neshoba Central: Abigail Buitrago, Morton; and Amanda Packer, Newton County; middle, from left, Maria Todd, Morton; Tanya Burnside, Neshoba Central; Kayla Jenkins, Louisville; Kayla Greer and Heather Bradley, both of Neshoba Central; Shawn Windham and Jade Castillo and Sharde Mays, all of Morton; and back, from left, Sandy Alexander and Robin Coker, both of Newton County; Emily Woodward, Cleveland; Maryanna Sikes and Jessica Moore, both of Leake Central; Beunca Patrick, Scott Central; Gloriana Latham, Morton; and Magen Pierce, Newton County. Not pictured is Livi Harrison, Newton County. Janie Mayfield serves ascolor guard coordinator. Hunter Corhern is Director of Bands. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF October 14, 2012

ECCC's Phi Beta Lambda leaders

These students at East Central Community College in Decatur were selected as Phi Beta Lambda officers for 2012-13. Seated from left are Christon Flores of Philadelphia, treasurer; Ashley Milner of Greenwood, secretary; Yashica Ickom of Lake, vice president; and Tanner Fortenberry of Union, president. Standing from left are Jared Jim of Choctaw, parliamentarian; Latisha Johnson and Patricia Thweatt, both historians from Decatur; and Timmie Ivey of Little Rock, reporter. Phi Beta Lambda is an organization for business students. Christy Ferguson, business and office technology instructor, serves as PBL adviser. (Submitted photo)

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF October 21, 2012

MARCH OF DIMES FUNDRAISER

Phi Beta Lambda students and chapter advisers at East Central Community College in Decatur are doing their part to help raise funds for the March of Dimes. Their fundraising efforts include a friendly sales competition involving balloons, as explained by adviser Christy Ferguson: "In the event that the students sell the most balloons, they will be given the opportunity to blast water balloons at the advisers; however, if the advisers succeed in raising the most money, they will get to see the chapter officers get soaked as students and faculty line up to throw water balloons at them!" Ferguson said balloons are $1 each with proceeds designated for the March of Dimes. Fundraising efforts continue through Oct. 31. The water balloon-drenching event is scheduled Thursday, November 8. Shown preparing for the event are (seated from left) PBL officers Timmie Wiggins of Little Rock, Tanner Fortenberry of Union and Yashica Ickom of Lake. Standing from left are advisers Brenda Johnson and Christy Ferguson.

Submitted photo

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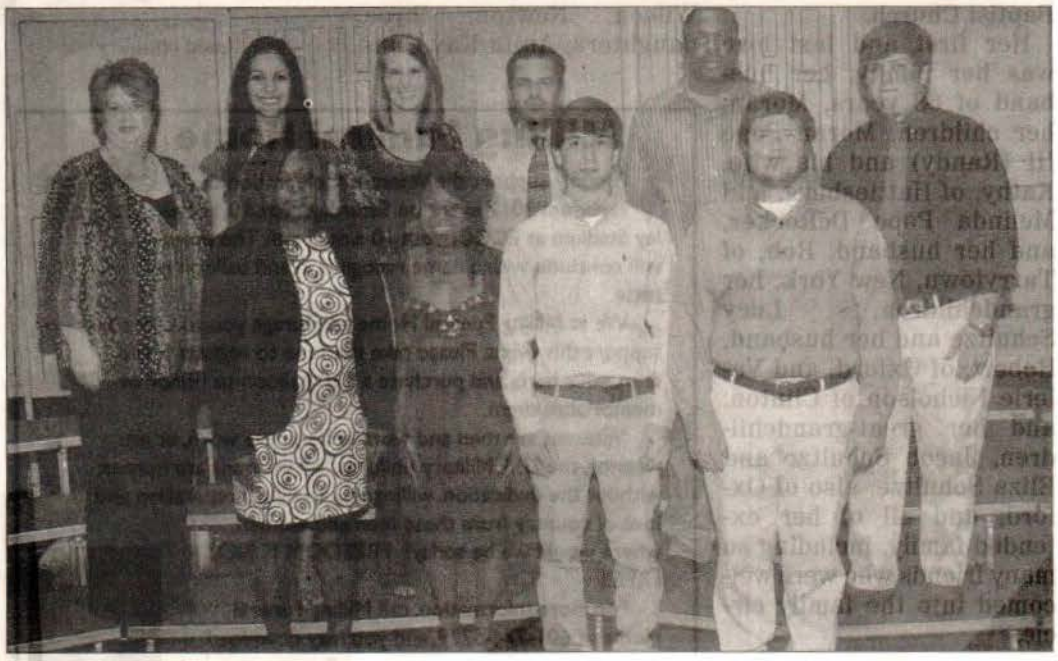
WEEK OF October 21, 2012

Phi Theta Kappa inductees



These East Central Community College students from Newton County were tapped for membership into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa during the fall induction ceremony held Oct. 9. Pictured are (front row, from left) Sonya McKee, Newton; Andrea McSwain, Decatur; Blake Ross, Hickory; and Michael Buntyn, Newton: and (back row, from left) Jennifer Collins, Newton; Silvia Carvalho, Union; Julie Myers, Judson Bounds and Wesley Robinson, all of Newton; and Colby Rigdon, Little Rock. Phi Theta Kappa is the international honor society for two-year colleges. Workforce Education counselor Amanda Walton and biology instructor Curt Skipper serve as Theta Xi advisers.

APPEARED IN:

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NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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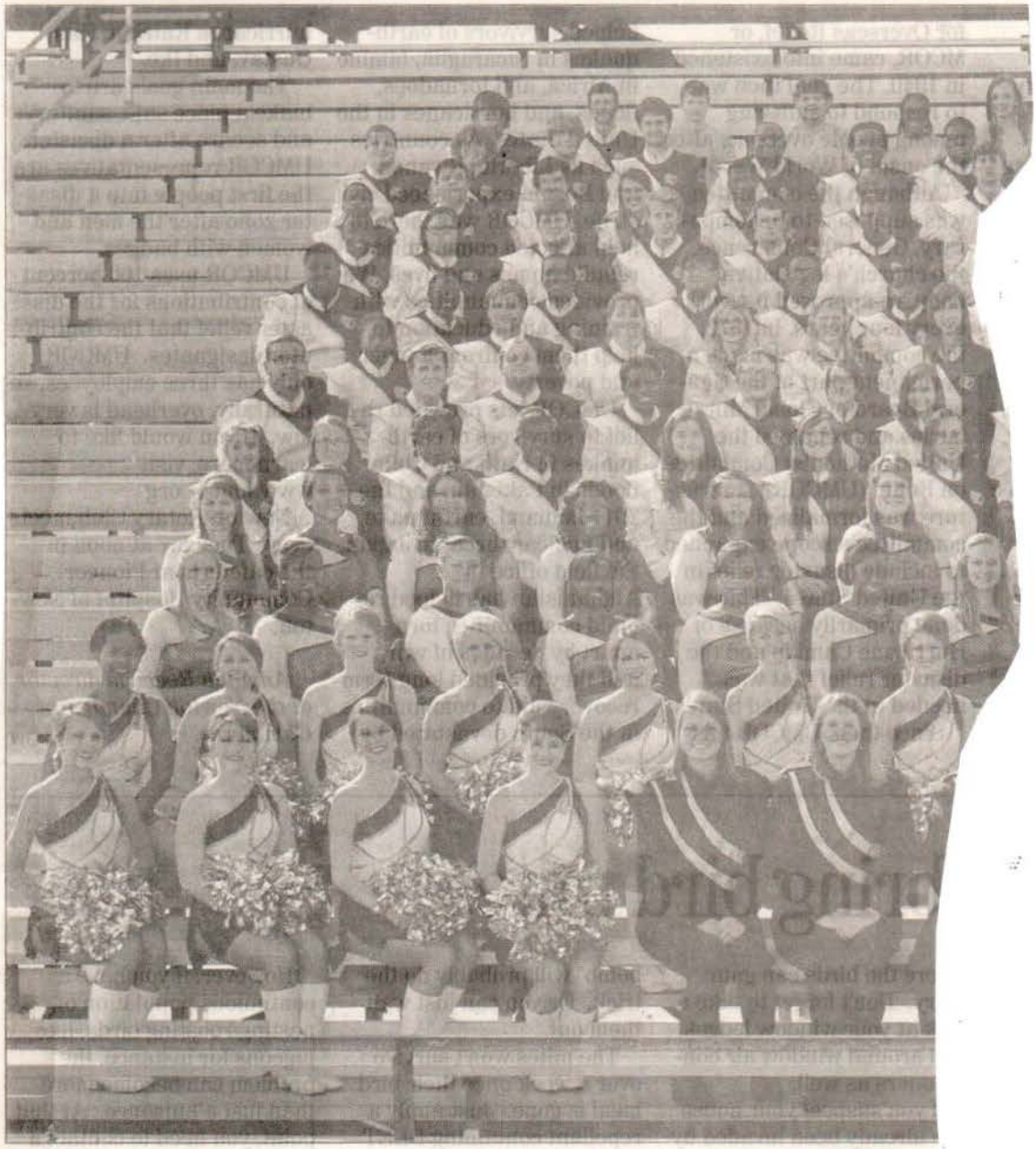
ECCC 'Wall O'

October 27, 2012



Members of the 2012 East Community College Wall O' Sound Marching Band includ
Emily Jacome-Cluff, Courtney Mackey, Jacob King, Nathan Williams, Javossiya
from left) Jayohnnie Slaughter, Kara Miller, Samantha Ellingburg and Caitlyn Sant,
Brooke Massey, Winston Emily Gully, Sylva Bay and Taylor Gressett, (third row,
ShyAnna Bell, Jessica Moore, Maryanna Sikes, Lorraina Burkes, Gloriana Latham and
Bradley, Jasmine Pickens, Jade Castillo, Beunca Patrick, Maranda McDaniel, Emily
Pierce and Amanda Packer, and Shawn Windham, (fifth row, from left) Emily Crane
Baucum, Rosie Hickman, Meghan McPherson, Danette Harris, Brandon Whitney
Stevens, William Milner, Scott Charles Taylor, Matt Graham, Sarah LaBue, Katie
Zachary Peden, and Brittany Gilmer, Ridgeland (seventh row, from left) Kasia
Beth Price, Adriana Alderson, Tyleasha Evans, Katie Butler, Brandon and Eden
Thomas Justice, Vacinte Young and Chris Mays, Leslie Graham, Julien Gillis,
left) Denzel Clemons, Ashley Bozeman and Chandler Smith, Sam Lovorn, Dustin
Warrick, Tyler Gilmore, (tenth row, from left) Jeremiah Chapman, Conor Bell,
Smith, Scott Brecia Hornesbuger, Michael Buntyn and Ryan Packer, Lucas Calvert,
Hunter Brooks, Jeremy Dade, Nick Willis, Ryan McClendon, Austin Savell
Matt Mason, Jacob Emmons, Mark Beasley, Aaliyah Cook, Tarra Gibson,
bands.

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UNTY JOURNAL _____
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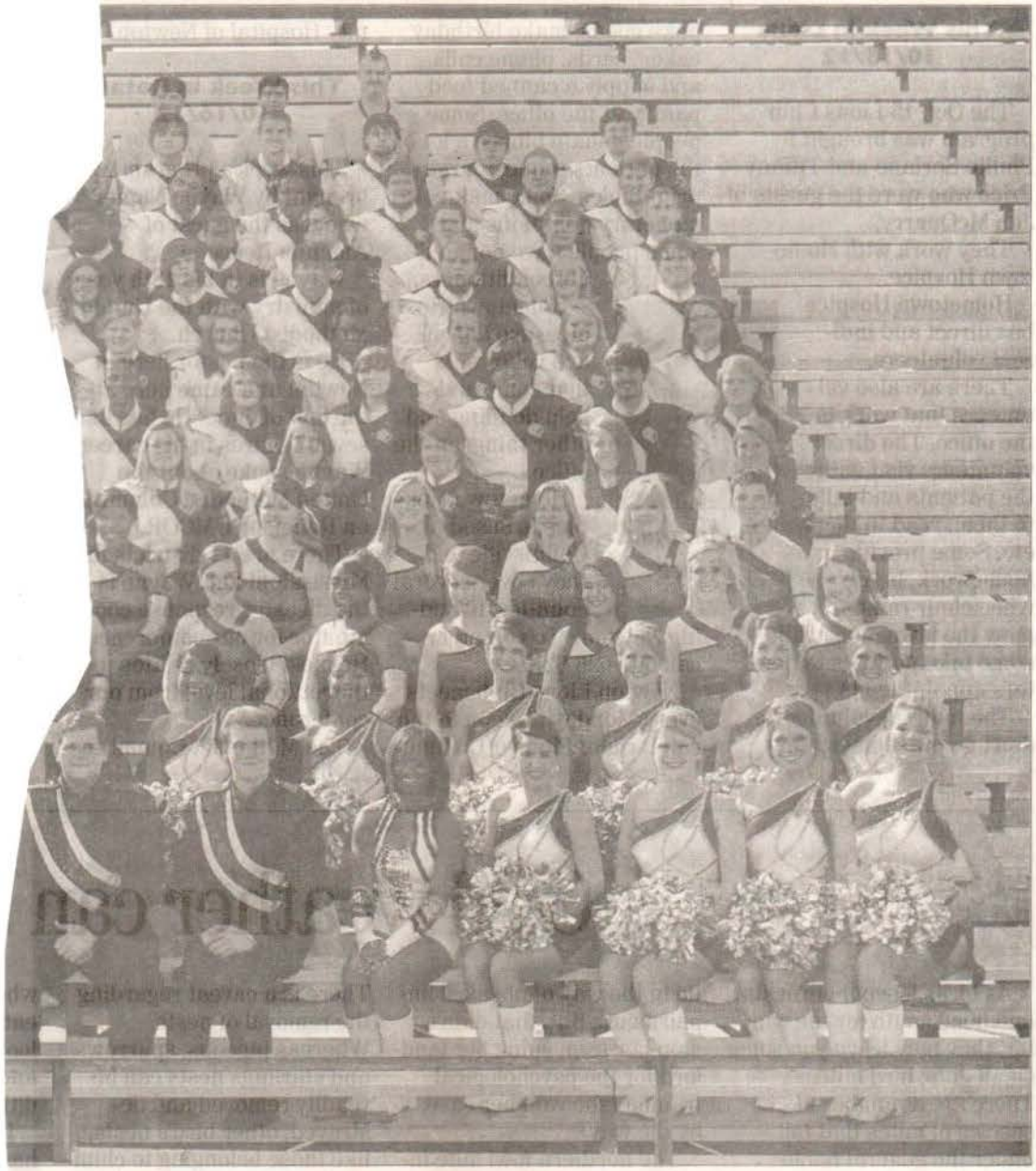
Sound' 2012



e (front row, from left) Kara Beth Johnson, Emma Burton, Kayla Covington, Kasey Logan, Walker, Lauren Daniels, Kendall Taylor, Hannah Farmer, and Ashley Milner, (second row, Kelsey Cox, Tori McInnis, Emilee Cox, Hillary Williams, Kenya Hickman, Abbie Smith, from left) Kayla Jenkins, Shamaine Jones, Sharde Mays, Tayna Burnside, Maria Todd, Abigail Buitrago, Sandy Alexander and Robin Coker, (fourth row, from left) Heather Woodward, Cleveland Kayla Greer, Tiffany Benson and Katherine Upchurch, Magen , Kristen Felton, Destiny Crawford, Cortney Drummond, Brooke Boyd and Jon' Marie Jenkins and Samantha Farley, Mallory Wilkerson, (sixth row, from left) Ben Avera, Turner Bradley, Xavier Rodgers, Mattie Brooks, Ashley Swearingen, Bronson Henderson, Choctaw McQueen, Jessie Armstrong, Georgia Doner and Hannah Cade, Adrian Tucker, Melissa Manues, McGee and Raven Bane, (eighth row, from left) Samson Pace, Jermaine Russell, very Ward, Jason Savell and Joshua Richardson, Hannah Berryhill, and Gareth Driskill, (ninth row, from Fisher, Bo Foster, Zyron Jones, Leslie Young and Katie Fedrick, Thomas Reeves, Brandon Chad Dorman, Brianna Parkman, Chris Lyons, Damien Lewis, Brandon Davis, Thomoz (eleventh row, from left) Cody Jenkins, Corey Burton, home-schooled from Rob Parker, and Jonathan Warren, and Chauncy Griffin and Jose Pereira (top row, from left) Dillon Evans, Dalton Sellers and Jonathan Keen, and Mark Staszefski. Hunter Corhern serves as director of

WEEK OF October 21, 2012

EC Centralettes

Members of the East Central Community College Centralettes, the danceline for the Wall O' Sound Marching Band, include (front row, from left) Emilee Cox, Hillary Williams, Kelsey Cox, Lauren Daniels, Hannah Farmer, Kendall Taylor, Emma Burton, Kenya Hickman, Caitlyn Sant and Kara Miller; (back row, from left) Brooke Massey, Taylor Gresett, Abbie Smith, Jayohnnie Slaughter, Samantha Ellingburg, Emily Gully, Ashley Milner, Tori McInnis, Kayla Covington, Kara Beth Johnson, and Kasey Logan. Nichol Hillman serves as Centralettes coordinator-choreographer. Hunter Corhern is director of bands.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF October 29, 2012

ECCC Phi Theta Kappa Officers

Serving as officers of East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, are (from left) Kimberly Blackwell of Louisville, vice president of members; Jordan Gunn of Forest, vice president of fellowship; Brandon Hughes of Union, vice president of leadership; Kurt Simoneau of Louin, president; Kyle Ethridge of Decatur, vice president of scholarship; Paul Sewell of Leesburg, vice president of service; and Abby McMillan of Newton, vice president of public relations. The PTK leaders are shown following their participation in the annual Fall Induction Ceremony held on the Decatur campus. Faculty members Kate Covich and Curt Skipper serve as Theta Xi advisers. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WEEK OF October 28, 2012

ECCC Players to present 'Happy Hollandaise!'

The East Central Community College Players will present their annual fall dinner theater at 7 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, November 29-December 1, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus. This year's presentation is a holiday comedy by Tim Koeing titled "Happy Hollandaise!" English instructor Stacey Pollock directs.

Tickets are $15 and are available beginning November 1 by calling the college switchboard at 601-635-6215.

Described as a "side-splitting" comedy, the plot revolves around main character Clair Finley (Holli Nutt of Morton) who wants the perfect Christmas.

Pollock said, "She's hired a gourmet chef to prepare her famous Hasenpfeffer Hollandaise Sauce for her dinner guests. Unfortunately, the chef is late, the guests are early and there are burglars loose in the neighborhood! There are also some mixed up identities and a quirky brother which add to the mayhem. However, things settle down and the true Christmas spirit shines through in a surprise ending which involves transformation, forgiveness, and a beautiful new beginning."

Additional cast members include Cameron Hinkle (George Finley) of Carthage, Colton Hurst (Phillip Finely) of Hickory, Shelby Parkman (Vilma Hasenpfeffer) of Homewood, Tanner Fortenberry (Larry Finch) of Union, Delaney Kilgore (Irene Quigley) of Newton, Sam Irby (Father William Abbot) of Morton, Virginia Easley (Mary Abbot) of Nanih Wayia and Chelsey Smith (Inspector Abernathy) of Brandon.

George Conner Bond of Brandon and Kerry Ingle of Forest are members of the technical crew. Claire Griffin serves as stage manager and the set manager is Amanda Packer, both of Decatur.

For more information contact Pollock at 601-635-6236. The e-mail is spollock@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WEEK OF October 28, 2012

Culinary treat at ECCC

First-year East Central Community College culinary arts technology instructor Barry Karrh (center) and students Pheanice Hamm Brown (left) of Decatur and Janie McKenzie of Quitman display one of their first creations of the 2012 semester — a butter pound cake made with simple buttercream and English marmalade. The Culinary Department will soon offer a variety of desserts and other food items for sale just in time for the holidays. For more information, contact Barry Karrh at ECCC, 601-635-6252 or 601-917-0440. His e-mail address is bkarrh@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF November 4, 2012

Public Invited to ECCC Guest Recitals

The East Central Community College Music Department will host three musical guests during the month of November, who will each make presentations at 1 p.m. during respective Wednesday recital classes in Vickers Fine Arts Auditorium. Each event is open to the public and there is no charge for admission.

The first performance is scheduled Wednesday, November 7, and will feature Dr. Michael Brown playing Haydn's Trumpet Concerto. He will be accompanied by ECCC instructor Len Bobo on piano.

Dr. Brown serves as the Head of the Music Department and Professor of Music at Mississippi State University in Starkville. A native of Georgia, he holds undergraduate degrees from Emmanuel College and Berry College and the Master's and Doctorate in Music Education from the University of Georgia. He currently serves as Music Director of the Starkville Symphony Orchestra and Brass Ensemble Director at the Starkville First United Methodist Church.

Dr. Jason Baker takes the stage on Wednesday, November 14 and will play the marimba.

Baker serves as Director of Percussion Studies and Assistant Professor of Music at Mississippi State University. He completed a Doctor of Musical Arts at the University of North Texas and holds a Master of Music degree from the New England Conservatory of Music. He graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Connecticut.

An active performer, Dr. Baker is principal timpanist for the Tupelo Symphony Orchestra, principal percussionist for the Starkville Symphony Orchestra and a member of the State Messengers faculty jazz combo and the Bain Percussion Group.

The final concert will be held on Wednesday, November 18, and features Dr. Rebecca Wascoe, soprano, who will present a lecture recital titled "The Singing Impresario."

Dr. Wascoe is a native of Texas and serves as Adjunct Professor of Voice at the University of Southern Mississippi. She is a recipient of the Sigma Alpha Iota Doctoral Grant, and continues to present recitals throughout the United States. Her solo repertoire includes major works by Beethoven, Mozart, Schubert, Mahler, Verdi and Brahams, among others.

APPEARED IN:

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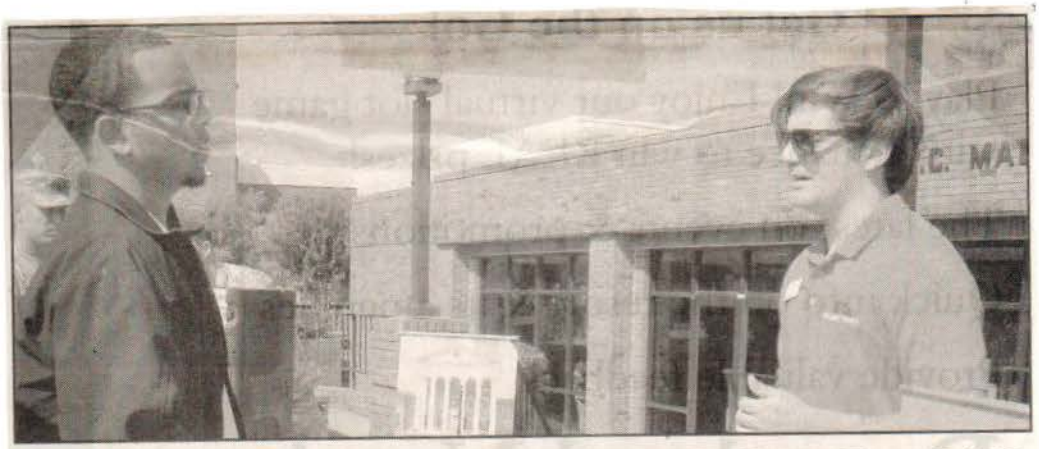
WEEK OF November 4, 2012



USM visits ECCC students during College Fest 2012

Representatives from area public and private colleges and universities recently took part in College Fest 2012 held Oct. 11 hosted on the East Central Community College campus in Decatur. Above, Tyler Biggs, a representative from the University of Mississippi, discusses the programs offered by the college to sophomore James Savage Jr. of Philadelphia. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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OF November 4, 2012

ECCC PTK INDUCTEES

Submitted Photo

Fifty East Central Community College students were inducted into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa at the fall induction ceremony held at the Vickers Fine Arts Center on the Decatur campus. Phi Theta Kappa is the international honor society for two-year colleges. Workforce Education counselor Amanda Walton and biology instructor Curt Skipper serve as Theta Xi advisers.

APPEARED ... DEMOCRAT
CARTHAGI... ...OUNTY TIMES
NEWTON C... ...COUNTY JOURNAL
SPIRIT OF M...
MERIDIAN S... ...CLARION-LEDGER

WEEK OF November 4, 2012

ECCC Centralettes

Members of the East Central Community College Centralettes, the danceline for the Wall O' Sound Marching Band, include front row, from left, Emilee Cox, Forest; Hillary Williams, Neshoba Central; Kelsey Cox, Forest; Lauren Daniels, Neshoba Central; Hannah Farmer, Newton County; Kendall Taylor, Central Academy; Emma Burton, Union; Kenya Hickman, Louisville; Caitlyn Sant , Newton County; and Kara Miller, Newton County Academy; and back row, from left, Brooke Massey, Winston Academy; Taylor Gresett, Newton County; Abbie Smith, Louisville; Jayohnnie Slaughter and Samantha Ellingburg, both of Newton County; Emily Gully, Sylva Bay Academy; Ashley Milner, Pillow Academy; Tori McInnis, Union; Kayla Covington, Nanih Waiya; Kara Beth Johnson, Morton; and Kasey Logan, Lake. Nichol Hillman serves as Centralettes coordinator/choreographer. Hunter Corhern is Director of Bands. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF November 4, 2012

ECCC Collegians

Members of the East Central Community College Collegians rock and roll band were recently announced following auditions held on the Decatur campus. Pictured are (front row, from left) technicians Ryan McClendon of Forest, Austin Savell of Philadelphia, Sarah LaBue of Conehatta, Michael Buntyn of Newton, Joey Walker of Hickory, Jamey Tune of Newton and Gareth Driskill of Collinsville; (second row, from left) vocalists Ryan Godwin of Newton, Joshua Forrest, Tyler Pigg and Jeremy Carson, all of Decatur; Taylor Gressett of Chunky, Kara Miller of Decatur, Krissy Winstead of Union, Claire Griffin of Decatur and Macy Seale of Philadelphia; and (back row, from left) wind and rhythm section members Matt Graham (trumpet) of Meridian, Melissa Manues (trumpet) of Hickory, Zachary Peden (saxophone) of Philadelphia, Jessie Armstrong (trombone) of Collinsville, Chase Fairchild (bass guitar) of Philadelphia, director Thomas W. Carson of Decatur, who also plays guitar; Joey Holdiness (lead guitar) and Chris Lyons (drum set), both of Philadelphia; Jacob King (pit percussion) of Newton; and Chandler Smith (keyboard) of Philadelphia. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF November 11, 2012

EC to host musical guests for recitals

From school reports

The East Central Community College Music Department will host three musical guests during the month of November, who will each make presentations at 1 p.m. during respective Wednesday recital classes in Vickers Fine Arts Auditorium.

Each event is open to the public and there is no charge for admission.

Jason Baker takes the stage on Nov. 14 and will play the marimba.

Baker serves as director of Percussion Studies and Assistant Professor of Music at Mississippi State University. He completed a Doctor of Musical Arts at the University of North Texas and holds a Master of Music degree from the New England Conservatory of Music.

He graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Connecticut.

An active performer, Baker is principal timpanist for the Tupelo Symphony Orchestra, principal percussionist for the Starkville Symphony Orchestra and a member of the State Messengers faculty jazz combo and the Bain Percussion Group.

The final concert will be held on Nov. 18, and features Rebecca Wascoe, soprano, who will present a lecture recital titled "The Singing Impresario."

Wascoe is a native of Texas and serves as Adjunct Professor of Voice at the University of Southern Mississippi. She is a recipient of the Sigma Alpha Iota Doctoral Grant, and continues to present recitals throughout the United States. Her solo repertoire includes major works by Beethoven, Mozart, Schubert, Mahler, Verdi and Brahams, among others.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF November 11, 2012

Holiday fare at ECCC

East Central Community College's Student Art Association is selling Christmas prints to raise funds for the organization and for former Director of Bands Thomas W. Carson's expenses related to his battle with esophageal cancer. Prints are hand-colored, limited edition linocuts designed by Claire Griffin of Decatur and printed by club members. Each print will be signed, numbered, matted and ready to fit in a 10-inch by 12-inch frame. Prints are $15 each and may be purchased with a check to the ECCC Student Art Association. Orders must be received by Nov. 30. For more information, telephone Chris Brady at 601-635-6229, or e-mail cbrady@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF November 14, 2012

EC Warriors collect food for area needy

These East Central Community College football players are shown with numerous food items collected as a result of their "Sack Hunger" project. The items were collected over a four-week period from various student organizations and staff members and were recently delivered to Hickory Baptist Church for distribution to area needy families. From left are Kyron Samuels, Fairhope, Ala.; Ben Brooks, Meridian; Martin Johnson, Preston; Kyle Koch, Meridian; Kalvin Smith, Decatur; and Cedric Kirkman of Tuscaloosa, who were among the many Warriors who participated in the project. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF November 11 2012

ECCC's Happy Hollandaise! cast

A "perfect" Christmas is the goal but the above scene suggests otherwise for cast members of East Central Community College's dinner theatre production of Happy Hollandaise! by Tim Koenig, scheduled Nov. 29-30 and Dec. 1(Thursday- Saturday) on the Decatur campus. The two-act comedy will be presented each evening at 7 p.m. in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Cast members and their respective hometowns include (seated from left) Shelby Parkman (as Vilma Hasenpferrer), Homewood; Sam Irby (Father William Abbot), Morton; and Virginia Easley (Mary Abbot), Nanih Waiya; and (standing from left) Holli Nutt (Claire Finley), Morton; Chelsey Smith (Inspector Abernathy), Brandon; Delaney Kilgore (Irene Quigley), Newton; Tanner Fortenberry (Larry Finch), Union; Colton Hurst (Phillip Finely), Hickory; and Cameron Hinkle (George Finely) Carthage. Not pictured are technical crew members George Conner Bond of Brandon and Kerry Ingle of Forest, and stage manager Claire Griffin and set manager Amanda Packer, both of Decatur. Tickets are $15 per person and may be reserved by calling 601-635-6215. (EC Photo)

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EEK OF November 28 2012

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Ac'cents Show Choir to present concert Nov. 27

Members of the East Central Community College show choir, The Ac'cents, will present their fall campus concert at 7 p.m. Tuesday, November 27, in Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium on the Decatur campus. There is no charge for admission and the public is invited to attend.

This year's music includes hits by Adele, Lady Gaga, Martina McBride, Michael Buble', Earth, Wind and Fire and CeLo.

Performers and their respective hometowns include Chandler Smith, Kara Miller, Claire Griffin and Jeremy Carson, all of Decatur; Krissy Winstead and Jayohonnie Slaughter, both of Union; Tyler Gilmore, Sebastopol; Sam Lovorn and Alex Weir, both of Philadelphia; Taylor Gressett, Chunky; Turner Stevens, Carthage; and Ryan Godwin, Newton.

Sound technicians are Jacob King of Sebastopol and Matthew Graham of Lake.

The Ac'cents perform throughout the ECCC district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties, as well as various community evens and campus concerts.

For more information contact director Vicki Blaylock at 601-635-6225 or e-mail vblaylock@eccc.edu.

WEEK OF November 18, 2012

PBL students donate to ECCC Project

Phi Beta Lambda students are doing their part to help raise funds for Operation Upgrade at East Central Community College in Decatur. The special "Technology in the Classroom" project involves installation of a technology standard in classrooms and labs throughout the College including a ceiling-mounted projector and a computer with Internet access and motorized screen. Cost is estimated at $4,500-$5000 per room or $225,000 - $250,000 to complete the project. From left are Dr. Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations and ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart, shown receiving $500 from PBL vice president Yashica Ickom of Lake and club president Tanner Fortenberry of Union, who along with other PBL members raised the funds by hosting a car wash on campus. (Submitted photo)

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF November 25, 2012

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC PHI THETA KAPPA INDUCTEES SCOTT COUNTY

These East Central Community College students from Scott County were tapped for membership into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa during the fall induction ceremony held Oct. 9, 2012, in the Vickers Fine Arts Center on the Decatur campus. Pictured are (front row, from left) Lucretia Gaddis, Forest; Casey Bryant, Lake; and Caitlan Dearman, Sebastopol; and (back row, from left) Cody Watkins, Lena; Peggy Sims, Forest; and Justin Nutt, Morton. Phi Theta Kappa is the international honor society for two-year colleges. Workforce Education counselor Amanda Walton and biology instructor Curt Skipper serve as Theta Xi advisers.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF November 25, 2012

EC's Phi Beta Lambda Members Attend Etiquette Workshop

Shown above are members of East Central Community College's Phi Beta Lambda chapter who participated in an Etiquette Workshop held at Mississippi State University-Meridian Nov. 2, 2012. Three PBL advisers and 15 club members attended the workshop and completed training in Dinner Etiquette, Networking Skills and Dressing for Success. Pictured are (front row, from left) adviser Christy Ferguson (business technology instructor); Patricia Thweatt, Decatur; Yashica Ickom, Lake; Flossie Hayes, Forest; Toya Steele, Louisville; Chelsea Gilmer, Philadelphia; Latisha Johnson, Decatur; Sandra Diehel, Sebastopol; and advisers Stella Dickerson (computer technology instructor) and Judith Hurtt (business technology instructor); and (back row, from left) Jared Jim, Choctaw; Delphine Edwards, Raleigh; Timmie Ivey, Little Rock; Yasmin Nicks, Lawrence; Jessie Boatner, Philadelphia; Demetria Davis, Newton; and Rachal Aburto, Morton. (MSU-Meridian Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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ECCC CHOIR PERFORMS DEC. 4

The East Central Community College Concert Choir will present its annual fall concert at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 4, in the sanctuary of Clarke-Venable Baptist Church in D
Admission is free and the public is invited to attend.

From school reports

The East Central Community College Concert Choir will present its annual fall concert at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 4, in the sanctuary of Clarke-Venable Baptist Church in Decatur.

Admission is free and the public is invited to attend.

Selections include "And the Glory of the Lord" and "The Hallelujah Chorus," both from Handel's Messiah; "Gloria Fanfare" by Ames, "Dormi Jesu" by Sirett, "Jesus, What a Wonderful Child," a spiritual by Larson; and "A Christmas Medley" written by Len Bobo.

Choir members and their respective hometowns include Adrianna Alderson, Tiffany Benson, Brittany Bobo, Ashley Bozeman, Tiffany Dorman, Tyler Gilmore, Jayohonnie Slaughter, Nathan Williams and Mallory Wilkerson, all of Union; Sandy Alexander, Little Rock; Jessie Armstrong, Collinsville; Joseph Aulds, Jon Marie Baucum, Jeremy Carson, Kaitlin Dean, Claire Griffin, Jacob King, Andrea McSwain, Kara Miller, Caitlyn Sant, Stephanie Spence and Jesse Vaughn, all of Decatur; Jessica Barnett and Kimberly Rigby, both of Forest; Rachel Boulton, Robin Coker, Ryan Godwin, Timothy Laird, Danielle Shelley and Clint Walker, all of Newton; Heather Bradley, Sam Lovorn, LaShundra Rush, Macy Seale, Chandler Smith, Alex Weir and Leslie Young, all of Philadelphia; Hunter Brooks, Mendenhall; Abigail Buitrago, Jade Castillo, Gloriana Latham, Jose Pereiro and Jessica Stinson, all of Morton; Georgia Doner, Bailey; Mark Ellis, Tadarin Foster, Colton Hurst, Melissa Manues and Emily Jacome-Cluff, all of Hickory; Matthew Graham and Courtney Mackey, both of Meridian; Taylor Gressett, Chunky; Samantha Hill, Corey Jackson and Johnny Kight, all of Louisville; Mary Anna Jefcoat and Rob Parker, both of Brandon; Hannah Kers
and Turner Stevens, b
Walnut Grove; Sarah
Conehatta; Kasey
Lake; Justin McNeal, P
Keith Phillips, Carthag
vannah Vance, Natchez
rance Walker, Lawrenc
Shawn Windham, Lena

For more informatio
tact director Vicki Blayl
601-635-6225. The e-m
dress is vblaylock@ecc

WEEK OF December 2, 2012

Winston ECCC Warriors

Winston County Warrior Corps Members

These East Central Community College students from Winston County are new members of the 2012-13 Warrior Corps, a select group chosen to represent the College with recruiting endeavors and special events on the Decatur campus. From left are Hayden Fryery, Teylor Martinez, Lindsey McCool, Johnny Kight, Abbie Smith and Nan Hartness, all of Louisville. EC Student Services staff members Lanette Hanna and Romonica Evans serve as sponsors. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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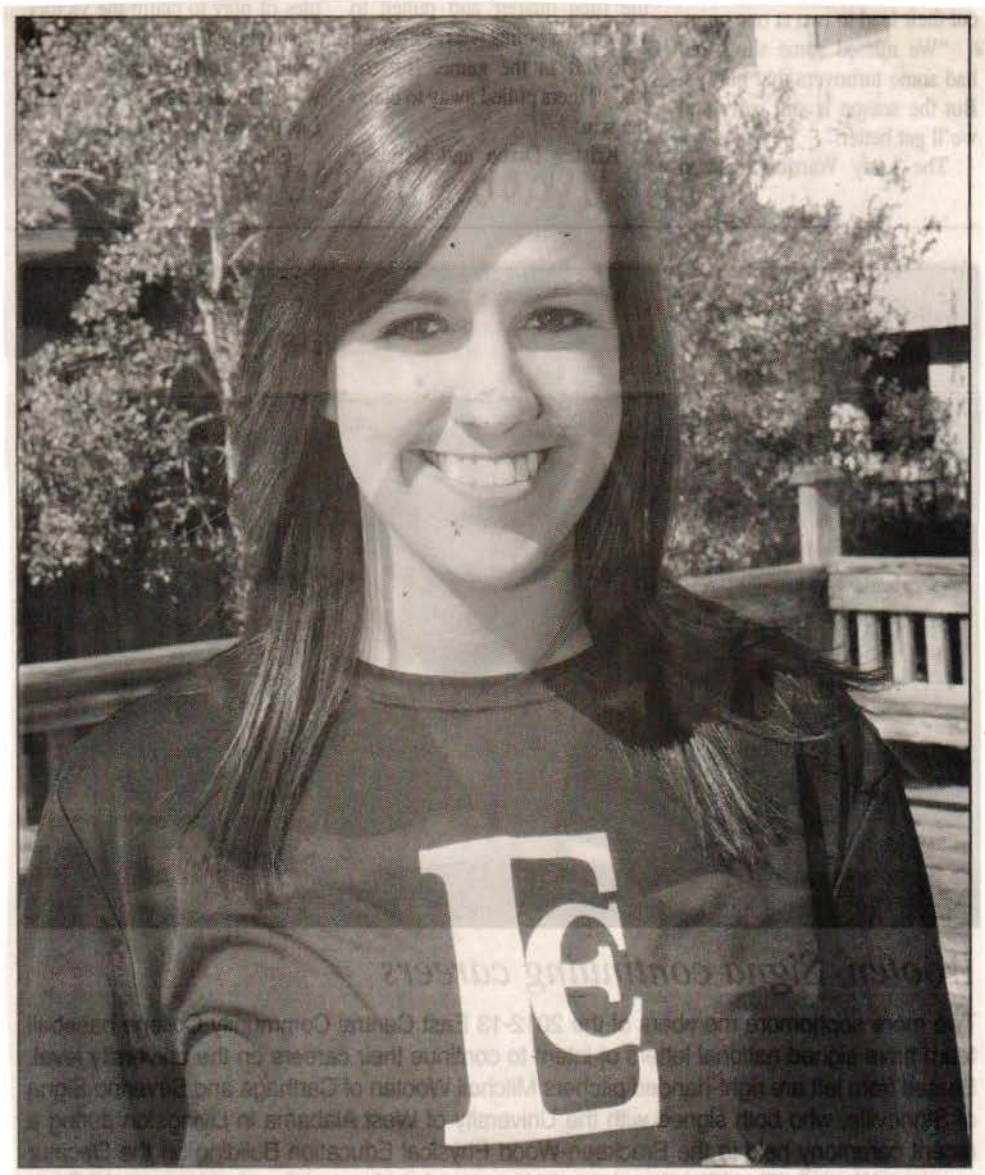
WEEK OF December 2, 2012



Killens joins ECCC Warrior Corps

Allie Killens of Saltillo is among new members of the East Central Community College Warrior Corps, a select group chosen to represent the College with recruiting endeavors and special events on the Decatur campus. Killens, a freshman, is a product of Saltillo High School. She is the daughter of Joe Killens of Philadelphia and Susan Killens of Saltillo. EC Student Services staff members Lanette Hanna and Romonica Evans serve as sponsors. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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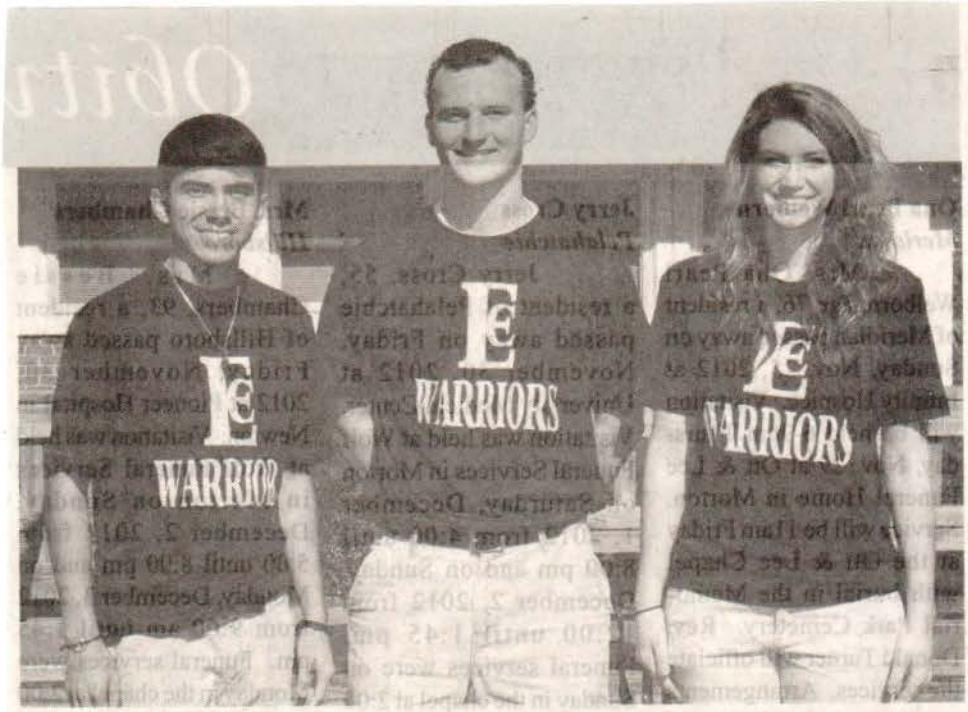
WEEK OF December 2, 2012



Scott County Warrior Corps Members

These East Central Community College students from Scott County are new members of the 2012-13 Warrior Corps, a select group chosen to represent the College with recruiting endeavors and special events on the Decatur campus. From left are Eliud Alvarez and Matthew Evans, both of Forest; and Emily Marler, Morton. Student Services staff members Lanette Hanna and Romonica Evans serve as sponsors. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF December 9, 2012

Choir concert

The East Central Community College Concert Choir is shown prior to the group's annual fall concert held Tuesday, December 4, at Clarke-Venable Baptist Church in Decatur. Members and their respective hometowns include accompanist Natalie Emmons (seated at piano), Lake; (first row, from left) Sandy Alexander, Duffee; MaryAnna Jefcoat, Brandon; Abigail Buitrago, Morton; Kimberly Rigby, Forest; Shawn Windham, Lena; Jesse Vaughn, Decatur; Turner Stevens, Madden; Colton Hurst, Hickory; Jessica Barnett, Forest; Jayohnnie Slaughter, Union; Kaitlin Beard, Decatur; Robin Coker, Newton; and director Vicki Blaylock of Newton; (second row, from left) Georgia Doner, Collinsville; Courtney Mackey, Meridian; Mallory Wilkerson, Union; Heather Bradley, Philadelphia; Mark Ellis, Hickory; Jacob King, Sebastopol; Rob Parker, Puckett; Chandler Smith, Philadelphia; Keith Phillips, Carthage; Terrance Walker, Newton; Lashundra Rush, Philadelphia; and Rachel Boulton, Hero; (third row, from left) Samantha Hill, Louisville; Brittany Bobo, Union; Gloiana Latham, Morton; Caitlyn Sant, Beulah Hubbard; Jon' Marie Baucum, Decatur; Ryan Godwin and Timothy Laird, both of Newton; Matt Graham, Meridian; Clint Walker, Newton; Leslie Young, Philadelphia; Tiffany Dorman, Union; Kasey Logan, Lake; and Kara Miller and Andrewa McSwain, both of Decatur; (fourth row, from left) Jessica Stinson, Morton; Savannah Vance, Natchez; Ashley Bozeman, Union; Stephanie Spence and Joseph Aulds, both of Decatur; Corey Jackson, Nanih Waiya; Johnny Kight, Louisville; Jessie Armstrong, Collinsville; Sarah LaBue, Conehatta; Claire Griffin, Decatur; Hannah Kersgaard, Sebastopol; and Adriana Alderson, Union; and (back row, from left) Macy Etta Seale, Philadelphia; Taylor Gressett, Chunky; Alex Weir, Philadelphia; Emily Jacome-Cluff, Hickory; Sam Lovorn, Philadelphia; Jeremy Carson, Decatur; Nathan Williams, Union; Bo Foster, Hickory; Hunter, Brooks, Puckett; Justin McNeal, Morton; Jose Pereira, Morton; Melissa Manues, Hickory; Danielle Shelley, Sebastopol; Jade Castillo, Morton; and Tiffany Benson, Philadelphia. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF December 16, 2012

ECCC performance

ECCC Gospel Choir Presents Concert

The East Central Community College Gospel Choir is shown prior to the group's annual concert held November 28, 2012 in the Ovid S. Vickers Fine Arts Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Members and their respective hometowns include (front row, from left) Vandaju Talley of Philadelphia, treasurer and section leader; Camera Hopkins of Louisville, Jermaine Russell and Denzell Clemons, both of Philadelphia; Jeremiah Chapman of Newton, Shavonda Stingley of Forest, Aries Agee of Morton, section leader; Andrea McSwain of Decatur, president and section leader; Tiara Stewart of Philadelphia, and Brenda K. Johnson, director; (second row, from left) Keith Phillips of Carthage, student director; Sabrina Shelwood of Collins, Toneshia Ruffin of Decatur, Ben Brooks of Meridian, Terrance Dentry, Jr. of Columbus, Charles Taylor of Neshoba, Lashundra Rush of Philadelphia, Keyndra Jones and Beunca Patrick, both of Forest; and Raenica Bryant of Meridian, secretary; (third row, from left) Sharde Mays of Morton, Brittany Clark of Carthage, Avery Ward of Morton, Thomas Robertson of Forest, Terrance Walker of Newton, assistant student director; Shakerra McGilberry of Laurel, Cahnesiya Donald of Forest, Diamond Wesley of Chicago, Evone McDonald of Montrose, and Brittany Foster of Ludlow, section leader. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF December 16, 2012

Top tech

Barrier Selected ECCC's Top Surgical Technology Student

Rebecca Barrier (center) of Noxapater was recognized as East Central Community College's "Surgical Technology Student of the Year" at the program's annual pinning ceremony held Dec. 13, 2012, in the Vickers Fine Arts Center on the Decatur campus. Barrier received the honor "for her positive attitude and excellence in the classroom and clinical settings." The presentation was made by LeAnn Shirley (left), program director/instructor and Kristie Pilgrim, instructor. Barrier was among the 14 graduates who completed the program. (EC Photo)

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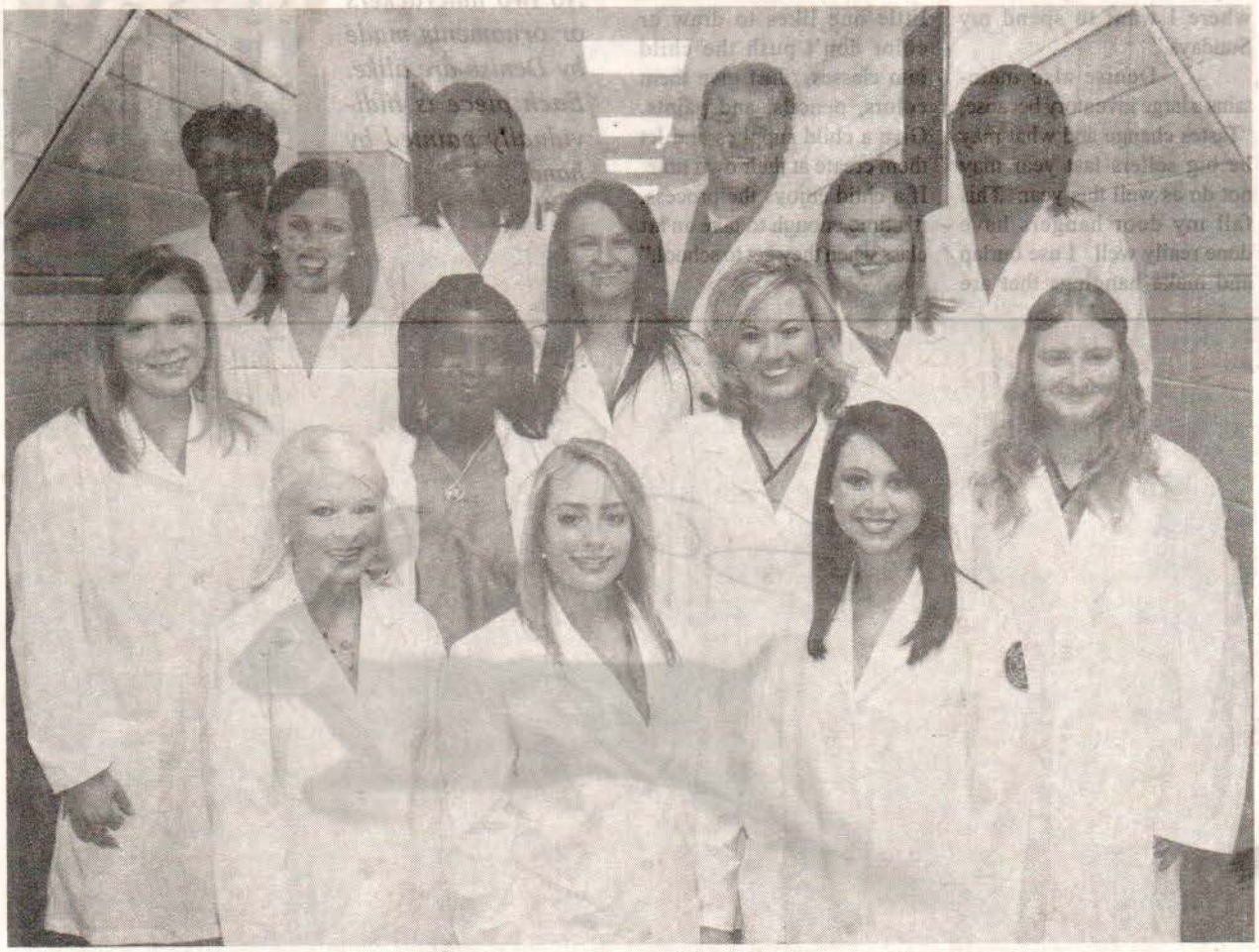
WEEK OF December 16, 2012



Complete ECCC Surgical Technology Program

Receiving special recognition for completing East Central Community College's Surgical Technology program were the above students who include (first row, from left) Ashley Channell, Eupora; Kelli F. Alford, Carthage; and Rebecca Barrier (Student of the Year), Noxapater; (second row, from left) Adrienne Edwards, Philadelphia; Tiffany L. Floyd, Jackson; Krystle Weems, Noxapater; and Meagan Reid, Lake; (third row, from left) Erin Hall, Union; Haley Johnson, Carthage; and Beth Prewitt, Philadelphia; and (fourth row, from left) Tinecia Shack, Jackson; Ericka Buckley, Union; Joshua Lee Richardson, Philadelphia; and LaPorshe Griggs, Meridian. Graduates were honored at the annual pinning ceremony held Dec. 13, 2012, in the Vickers Fine Arts Center on the Decatur campus. LeAnn Shirley serves as program director/instructor and Kristie Pilgrim also serves as instructor. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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EC students selected for Who's Who in American Community/Junior Colleges

Many students at East Central Community College in Decatur were recently named to Who's Who Among Students in American Community/Junior Colleges for 2012-13.

Students were nominated by faculty and staff and are chosen based on academic achievement and involvement in extracurricular clubs and organizations.

The students included in the photo at right are:

First row, from left, Kenneth Massey, Decatur; Sam Irby, Morton; Amanda Barnett, Union; Dakota Morris, Edinburg; Zack Killion, Crestwood, Ky.; Taylor Potter, Bentonia; Jared Canoy, Woolmarket; Jon' Marie Baucum, Decatur; McGee Ledbetter, Columbus; Andrew Hanna, Union; Kelsey Tadlock and Andrea McSwain, both of Decatur; and Breonka Simpson, Meridian.

Second row,are Johnny Beamon, New Hope; Bryor Shorter, Florence; Jacob King, Sebastopol; Sandy Alexander, Duffee; Dylan Peden, Philadelphia; Timmie Wiggins, Little Rock; Ivory Weldon, Pulaski; Mary Sanders, Vidalia, La.; I'Oshore May, Carthage; Meghan Johnson, Goodhope; Emily Marler, Morton; Shelby Parkman, Homewood;

Adreanna Gammage, Bay Springs; Sarah Orr, Noxapater; Denese Seales, Philadelphia; Wanda Harrison, Walnut Grove; Lauren Daniels, Philadelphia; Aristotle Love, Newton; and Tanner Fortenberry, Union.

Third row are Erin Thornton, Decatur; Haley Covert, Collinsville; Daniel Chim, Forest; Allison Perry, Jordon Clearman and Dakota Vowell, all of Philadelphia;

Savannah Vance, Natchez; LaJoya Griffin and Ally Loper, both of Philadelphia; Holli Nutt, Morton; Brittany Smith, Decatur; Kimberly Leflore, Carthage; Javossiya Walker, Netwon; and Tiana Grover and Ed Boudreaux, both of Decatur.

Fourth row are Zak Thrasher, Columbus; Courtney Mackey, Meridian; Melissa Manues, Hickory; Fernando Gonzalez, Guaynabo, Puerto Rico; Jeremy Denson, Walnut Grove; Christopher Mays, Louisville; Stephen Mayo, Carthage;

Daniel Watkins, Springdale, Ark.; Blake Rose, Hickory; Lee McDill, Newton; Jeremy Carson, Kalvin Smith and Cindy Burnside, all of Decatur; Cory Goodin and Nathan Stone, both of Louisville; and Claire Griffin, Decatur.

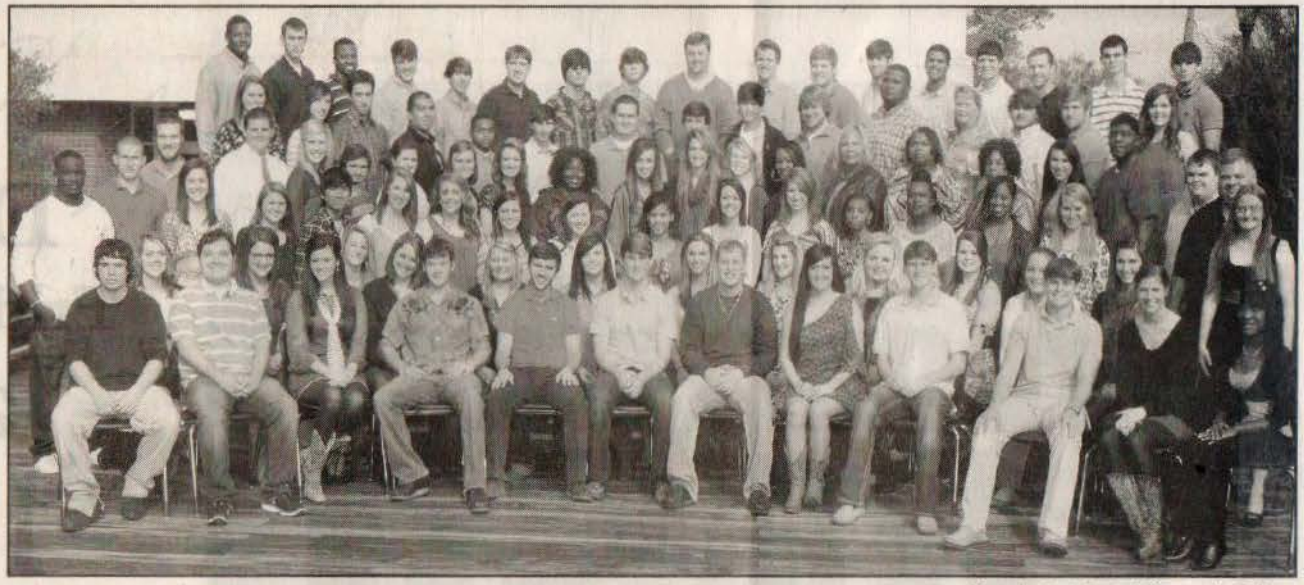

Photo by East Central Community College

Fifth row are Candace Marchant, Carthage; Ashley Barnett and Tori McInnis, both of Union; Kelsie Mann, Decatur; Leighanne Wright, Little Rock; Tenna Patterson, Lexington, Ala.;

Hillary Kitchens, Edinburg; Shelby Johnston, Lena; Jessica Barnett, Forest; Erin Wooten, Carthage; Beth Mayes, Jacksonville, Ala.; Hannah Farmer, Decatur; and Crystal Roland, Philadelphia.

Back row are Kalik May, Tuscaloosa, Ala.; Blake Dubuisson, Long Beach; Terrance Steele, Philadelphia; Darin Hillman, Sebastopol; William Meruvia and Blake Gordon, both of Philadelphia; Julien Gillis, Hickory; Brandon Davis, Chunky;

Johnny Kight, Louisville; Blake Cochran, Hickory; Lucas Calvert and Ryan Shotts, both of Louisville; Rubert Alcantara, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic; Kyle Henson, Starkville;

Caleb McKee and Ethan Pendergrass, both of Philadelphia; and Jeffrey Hemphill, Louisville. Not pictured are Lindsey Adams, Richard Ainsworth, Cain Prestage and Channs Thaggard, all of Carthage; Tyler Alexander and Olivia Harrison, both of Little Rock;

Jessie Armstrong and Hannah Cade, both of Collinsville; Nikki Cumberland, Alexandra Jones and Alexander Lee, all of Decatur; Megan Everett and Rosalia Hernandez-Chim, both of Forest; Tyler Gilmore, Sebastopol;

Amanda Lott and Lacie Sessums, both of Lena; Emily Lucy, Karri Miller and Addreona Segar, all of Newton; Marlee Massey and Nikki Slade, both of Union; Tiandra Parker, Louisville; Madeline Potter and Ruby Potter, both of Flora; Ryne Riebock, Florence;

Dylan Sparnecht, Chesney Spence, Savannah Stuart-Dahl and Alexandra Weir, all of Philadelphia; Kendall Taylor, Brooksville; and Tiffany Watkins, Lawrence.

WEEK OF December 23, 2012

ECCC Practical Nursing Program Graduates

These East Central Community College students hope to soon begin their careers in the health-related field having recently completed the College's Practical Nursing Program. They received special recognition for completing the 12-month program during the annual pinning ceremony held December 10, 2012, on the Decatur campus. From left are Kristy Bounds of Forest, a product of Scott Central High School; Emily Hansford, a graduate of Union High School; and Chiquita Calloway of Philadelphia, a product of Noxapater High School. Hansford also provided the commencement address and was recognized as Dual Enrollment Student of the Year. Bounds and Calloway also participated in the ceremony by providing the invocation and benediction, respectively. Denita Thomas serves as dean of healthcare education. Practical Nursing faculty members include Theresa Cole, Violet Lambert, Alicia Lundstrom, Melanie Pinter, Vickie Thorne and Christy Wilson. (EC Photo)

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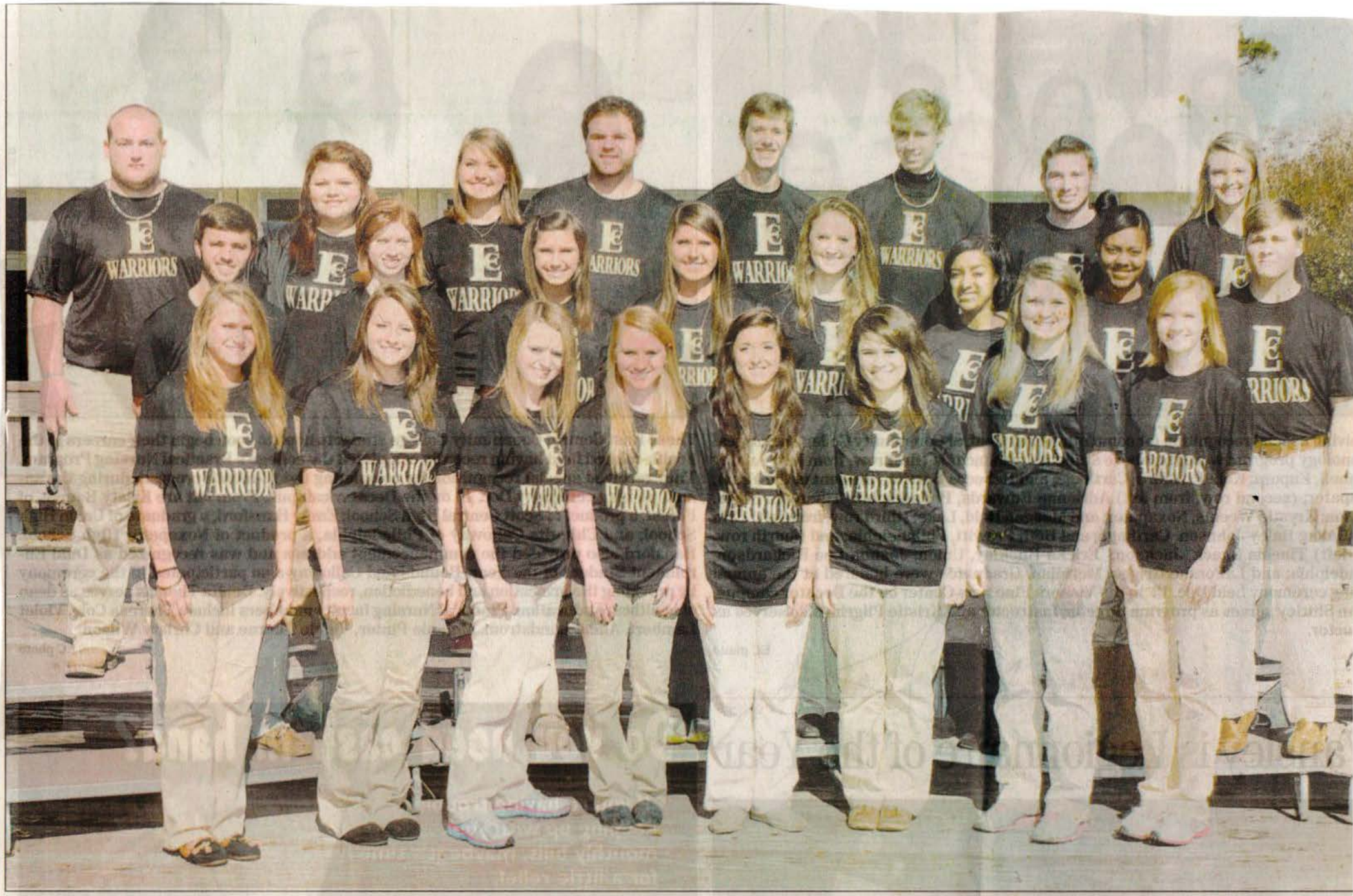

These East Central Community College students from Newton County are new members of the 2012-13 Warrior Corps, a select group chosen to represent the college w recruiting endeavors and special events on the Decatur campus. Pictured are (first row, from left) Ashlyn Pullin and Madison Herrington, both of Union; Tiffany Watki Conehatta; Tiana Grover, Jon'Marie Baucum and Axie Jones, all of Decatur; Alex Meador, Hickory; and Haley Chapman, Hickory; (second row, from left) Zack Killion, Crestwo Ky.; Felicia Robinson, Hickory; Hannah Farmer, Decatur; Taylor Gressett, Chunky; Paige Wall, Decatur; Mikayla Carson, Newton; Jayohnnie Slaughter, Union; and Clint Walk Newton; and (third row, from left) Zach Yates, Decatur; Alli Rawson, Union; Emily Jacome-Cluff, Hickory; Greg Mitchell, Meridian; Tyler Pigg, Colton Ballard and Joseph Aul all of Decatur; and Casey Cherry, Union. Student Services staff members Lanette Hanna and Romonica Evans serve as sponsors.

WEEK OF December 30, 2012

ECCC hosts choral festival

The East Central Community College choral music department hosted its annual District High School Choir Festival recently on the Decatur campus. Vicki Blaylock (right), ECCC choral/vocal music director, served as clinician for the nearly 300 students from Winston Academy, Nanih Waiya, Noxapater, Scott Central, Neshoba Central and Newton County high schools who attended. Special exhibition performances were presented by the ECCC Concert Choir and the Ac'cents show choir. The day concluded with a mass choir performance by all festival participants. Selections included Christmas music titled "Carol of the Star," "Fum, Fum, Fum" and "Jesus, What a Wonderful Child."

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WEEK OF December 30, 2012

ECCC Holds Fall Sports Awards Banquet

Chris Harris, East Central Community College athletic director, addresses a large crowd in attendance for the Fall Sports Awards Banquet held December 5, 2012, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus. Numerous honors were presented to football and soccer players at the annual program. (EC Photo)

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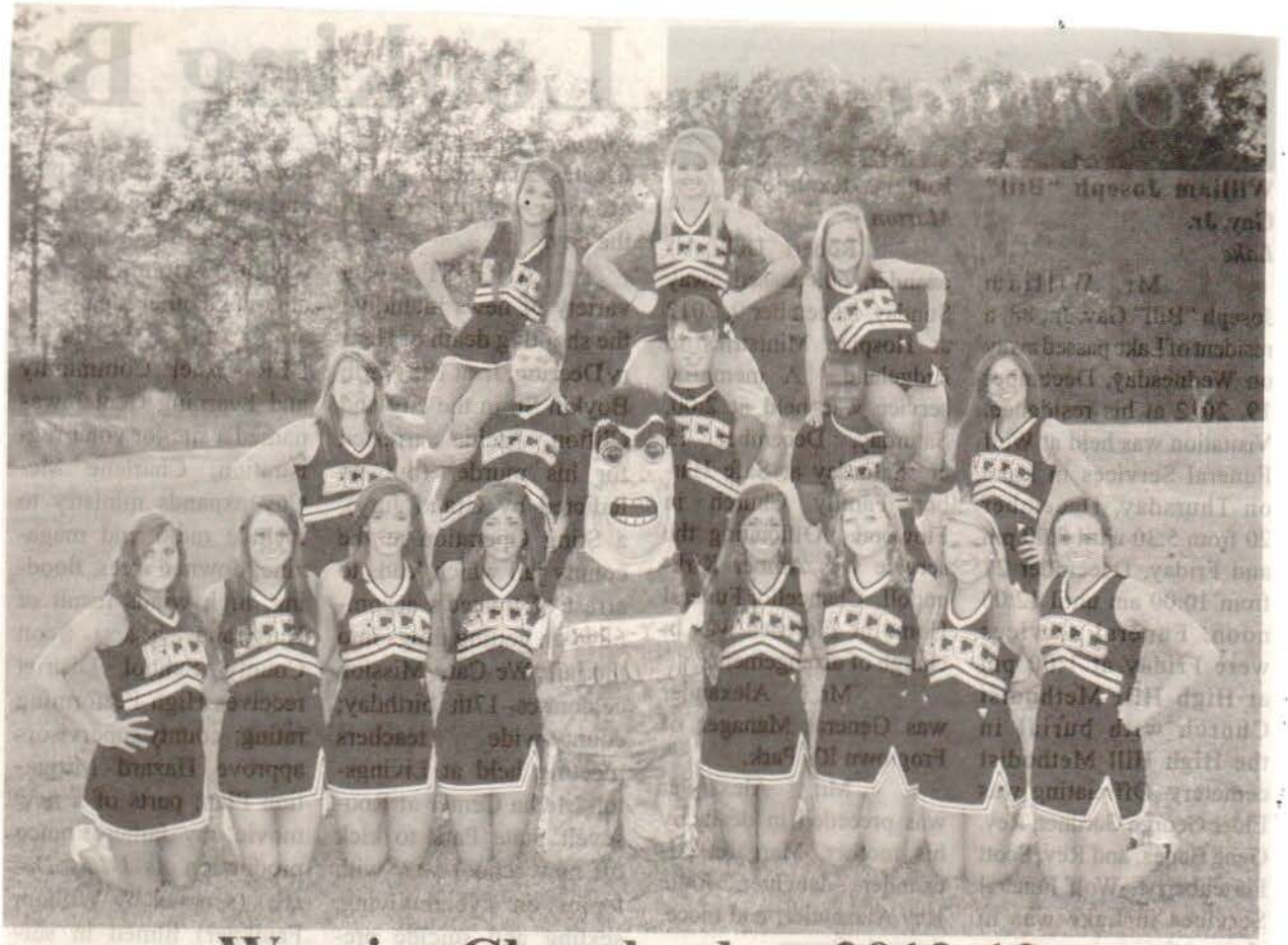
WEEK OF December 30 2012



Warrior Cheerleaders 2012-13

East Central Community College Warrior Cheerleaders for 2012-13 are (front row, from left) Jordyn Landry and Madison Stringer, both of Decatur; Payton Smith of Forest, Lindsey Ezelle of Decatur, Rachel Boulton of Hickory, mascot; Lauren Ezelle of Decatur, Hanna Kemp of Carthage, Mary Margaret Bailey of Philadelphia, and Alex Hollingsworth of Hickory; (second row, from left) Madison Herrington of Union, Maxey Parker of Noxapater, Darrin Hillman of Sebastopol, David Williams of Decatur and Hannah Smith of Carthage; and (top row, from left) Lindsey McCool of Louisville, Laken Fulcher of Nanih Waiya, and Heather Johnson of Chunky. Warrior Cheerleaders are coached by Pam McKnight of Forest. (EC PHOTO)

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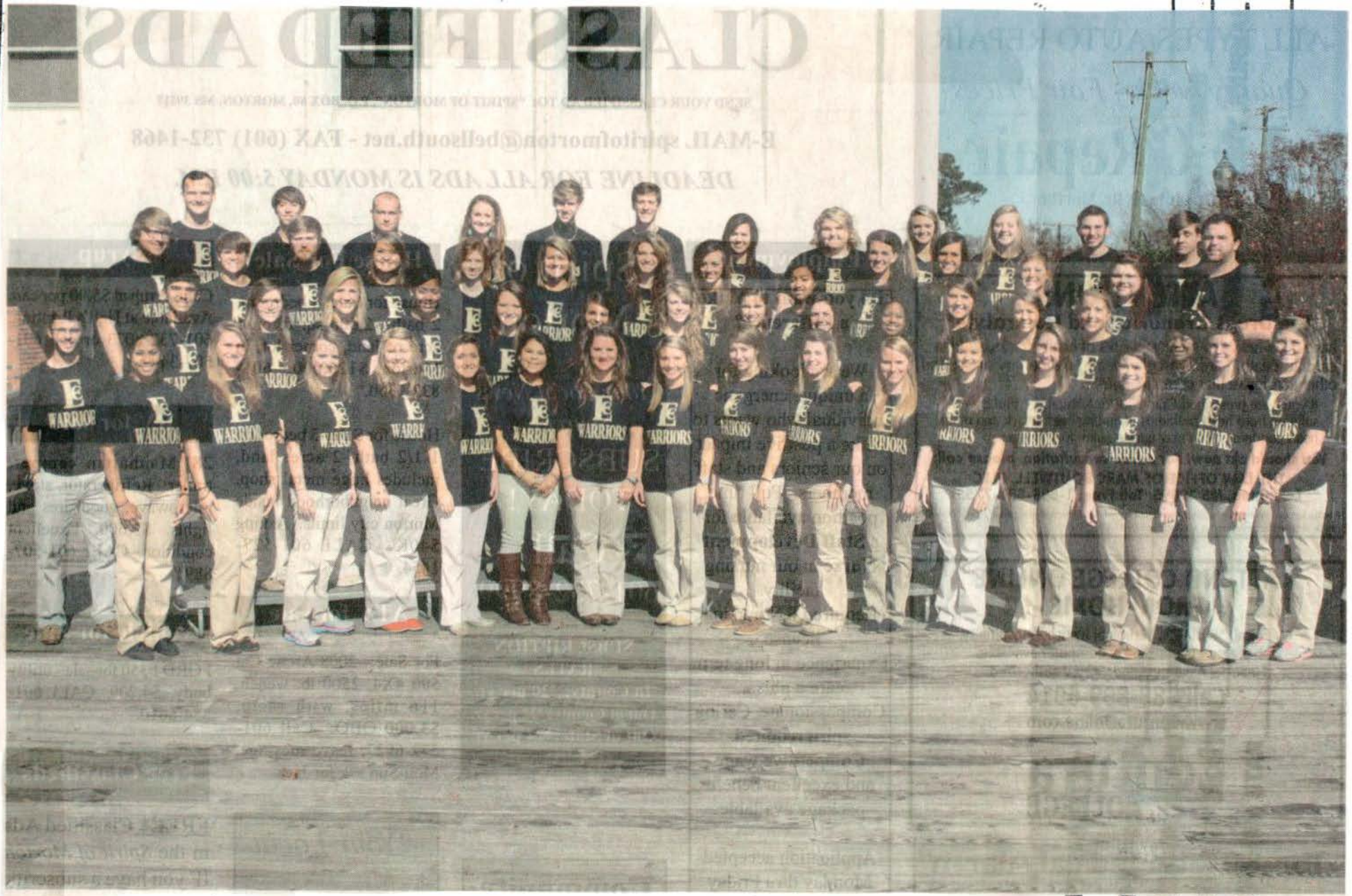
WEEK OF December 30 2012



ECCC Warrior Corps

Above are members of the 2012-13 East Central Community College Warrior Corps, a select group chosen to represent the College with recruiting endeavors and special events on the Decatur campus. Pictured are (first row, from left) Lajoya Griffin, Philadelphia; Ashlyn Pullin, Union; Tiffany Watkins, Conehatta; Leighanne Wright, Little Rock; Jon'Marie Baucum, Decatur; Teylor Martinez and Nan Hartness, both of Louisville; Mary Margaret Bailey, Philadelphia; Holli Nutt, Morton; Shelby Johnston, Lena; Tiana Grover, Decatur; Amanda Barnett, Union; Allison Perry, Philadelphia; Axie Jones, Decatur; Kennedy Castleberry, Meridian; and Alex Meador, Hickory; (second row, from left) Zack Killion, Crestwood, KY; Eliud Alvarez, Forest; Claire Griffin, Decatur; Sandy Alexander, Little Rock; Jayohnnie Slaughter and Madison Herrington, both of Union; Lindsey McCool, Louisville; Shelby Parkman, Raleigh; Hannah Farmer, Decatur; Hillary Williams, Philadelphia; Taylor Gressett, Chunky; Ally Loper and Jordan Clearman, both of Philadelphia; Andrea McSwain, Decatur; (third row, from left) Jeremy Carson, Decatur; Andrew Hanna, Union; Nathan Stone, Louisville; Emily Jacome-Cluff and Felicia Robinson, both of Hickory; Hayden Fryery, Louisville; Emily Marler, Morton; Meghan Johnson, Lena; Mikayla Carson, Newton; Emily Gully, Bay Springs; Abbie Smith, Louisville; Kendall Taylor, Macon; Alli Rawson, Union; and Greg Mitchell, Meridian; and (fourth row, from left) Matthew Evans, Forest; William Meruvia, Philadelphia; Zachary Yates, Paige Wall, Colton Ballard and Tyler Pigg, all of Decatur; Allie Killens, Saltillo; Brooke Wilson, Lena; Casey Cherry, Union; Elauran Vowell, Philadelphia; Joseph Aulds, Decatur; and Clint Walker, Newton. Warrior Corps members not pictured include Kelsey Bounds, Newton; Lucas Cavert, Jeffrey Hemphill and Johnny Kight, all of Louisville; Haley Chapman and Blake Cochran, both of Hickory; Denzel Clemons, Danielle Irons, Lashundra Rush and Chandler Smith, all of Philadelphia; Ian Cremeen, Enterprise; Tyler Gilmore, Union; Alexander Lee and Kelsey Tadlock, both of Decatur; Mary Anna Jefcoat, Brandon; and Nathan Powell and Breonka Simpson, both of Meridian. Student Services staff members Lanette Hanna and Romonica Evans serve as sponsors. (EC Photo)

WEEK OF January 22, 2012

ECCC Hosts Men's Doubles Tennis Tourney

A men's doubles tennis tournament will be held Saturday, Feb. 18, 2012, at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC tennis coach Dianne O'Neill.

Competition gets under way at 8:30 a.m. on the ECCC tennis courts.

Cost is $10 per person, with proceeds designated for the ECCC tennis program.

For more information, contact Coach Dianne O'Neill, 601-862-2130 or e-email killerbdi@yahoo.com.

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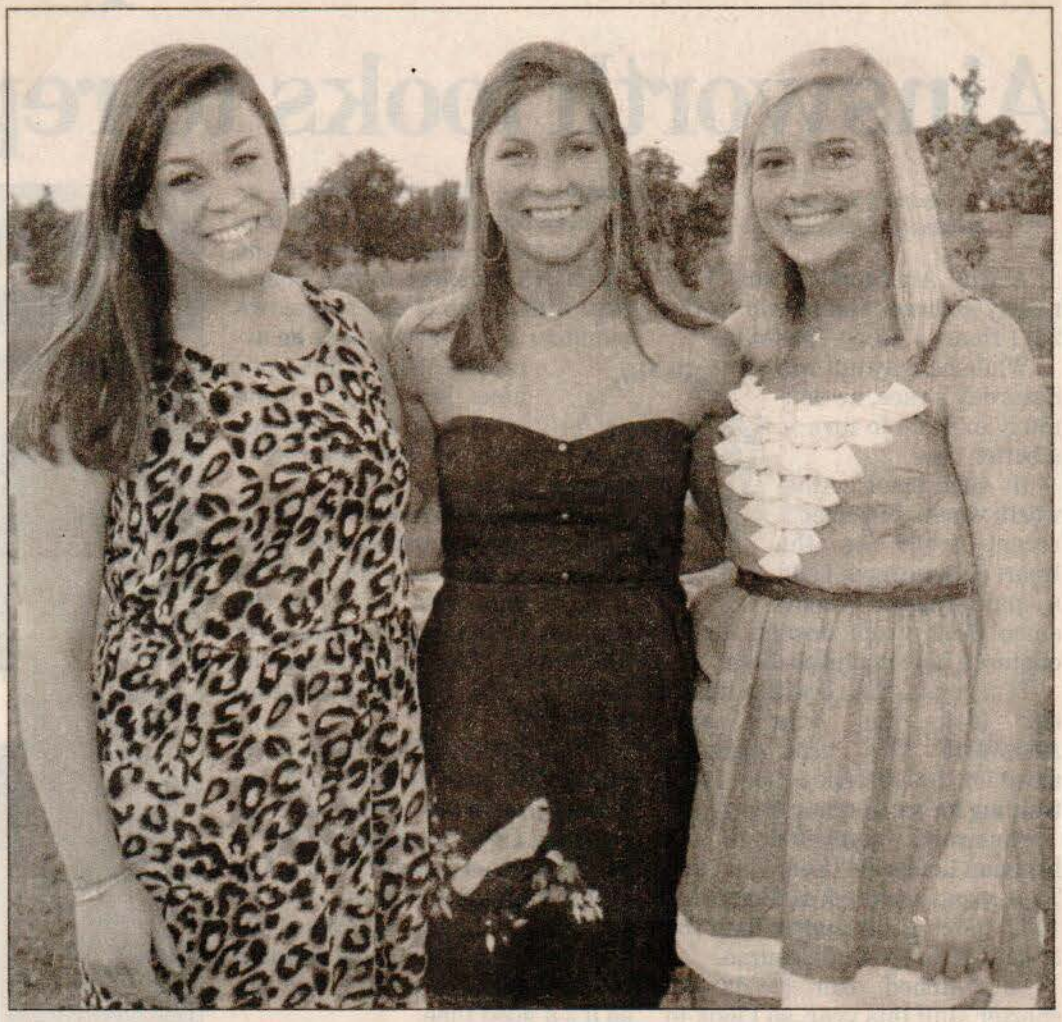
WEEK OF July 22, 2012

Lady Warrior tennis awards



These members of the 2012 East Central Community College women's tennis team received honors at the Spring Sports Banquet. From left are Newton County High School products Lauren Lurk (Co-Captain Award and Most Improved Player), Kelsey Tadlock (Warrior Award), and Cassie Munn (Most Valuable Player, Co-Captain and Scholar Athlete awards).

ECCC photo

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WEEK OF February 19, 2012

Warrior's women tennis

ECCC Lady Warrior Tennis Team

East Central Community College's Lady Warrior tennis team for 2012 includes (from left) Kelsey Tadlock, a product of Newton County High School; Savannah Vance, Trinity Episcopal, Natchez; Lauren Lurk and Cassie Munn, both of Newton County High School; Persephiney Wingo, Morton; and India Ball, Louisville. Not pictured is Claire Tadlock, Newton County. The Lady Warrior tennis program is led by head coach Kyle Watson and assistant Dianne O'Neill. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF February 19, 2012

ECCC Warrior tennis team

East Central Community College men's tennis team for 2012, kneeling, from left, Vacinte Young and Christopher Mays, both products of Louisville High School; Andrew Hanna, Newton County Academy; managers T.J. Davis of Louisville and Danny Smith of Carthage; and back row, Josh Peoples, Leake Academy; Lucas Calvert and William Meruvia, both of Neshoba Central; Hunter Stovall, Philadelphia; and Blake Cochran, Newton County. Not pictured is D.J. Townsend, Carthage. The Warrior tennis program is led by head coach Kyle Watson and assistant Dianne O'Neill. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF February 26, 2012

ECCC Warrior netters beat Hinds

From press reports

The East Central Community College men's tennis team recorded a 6-3 victory over Hinds Community College Tuesday, Feb. 21 in competition held at Gaddis Park in Forest.

Blake Cochran of Newton County and Josh Peoples of Leake Academy helped lead the Warriors to victory by defeating C. Harper and E. Fountain 8-5 in doubles competition. Lucas Calvert of Neshoba Central and Hunter Stovall of Philadelphia were also victorious in doubles, winning their match by default. Levi French of Union and Chris Mays of Louisville were defeated 8-0 by Y. Horbik and G. Blissard.

In men's singles, Calvert defeated Harper (6-1, 7-5) and Mays clipped Fountain (6-2, 6-3). Peoples and Stovall won their matches by default. In other results, French fell to Horbik (6-0, 6-0) and Cochran lost to Blissard 4-6, 7-5, 1-0 (10-8).

In women's competition, the Lady Warriors were blanked 9-0.

Cassie Munn and Lauren Lurk, both of Newton County, fell 8-2 in their doubles match.

In singles, Munn was defeated 6-0, 6-0; Lurk fell 6-0. 6-3; and Kelsey Tadlock lost 6-2, 6-1. Tadlock is also a product of Newton County High School.

The ECCC tennis program is led by head coach Kyle Watson and assistant Dianne

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February 26, 2012

Winston County Journal www.winstoncountyjournal.com

ECCC Warrior Tennis Team

East Central Community College men's tennis team for 2012 includes (kneeling from left) Vacinte Young and Christopher Mays, both products of Louisville High School; Andrew Hanna, Newton County Academy; managers T.J. Davis of Louisville and Danny Smith of Carthage; and (back row, from left) Josh Peoples, Leake Academy; Lucas Calvert and William Meruvia, both of Neshoba Central; Hunter Stovall, Philadelphia; and Blake Cochran, Newton County. Not pictured is D.J. Townsend, Carthage. The Warrior tennis program is led by head coach Kyle Watson and assistant Dianne O'Neill.

O'Neill.

ECCC netters drop recent decisions

OF March 11, 2012

East Central Community College's tennis teams were defeated by Holmes Community College and MS Gulf Coast Community College squads in recent contests.

The Warriors and Lady Warriors fell by identical 6-3 margins to Holmes Thursday, March 8.

In men's competition, Andrew Hanna of Union and Lucas Calvert of Louisville posted wins in singles and doubles competition.

Hanna defeated Lyons 7-6 (7-5), 6-3 and Calvert clipped Gann 6-1, 6-0 in singles. Hanna and Calvert also teamed to win their doubles match over Lyons/Parker 8-3.

Hanna is a product of Newton County Academy and Calvert is a graduate of Neshoba Central High School.

In other men's singles results, Levi French of Union fell to Hale, 6-0, 6-0; Blake Cochran of Newton County fell to Boxx, 6-4, 6-0; Chris Mayes of Louisville fell to Custode, 6-1, 6-0; and Josh Peoples of Leake Academy fell to Tedford 6-1, 6-2.

Cochran and Peoples were edged 9-7 in their doubles match with Custode/McCumber, and French and Mays dropped an 8-3 decision to Hale/Box.

In women's singles, Cassie Munn defeated White 6-3, 6-0 and Claire Tadlock blanked Applewhite 6-0, 6-0. Munn and Tadlock are products of Newton County High School.

In other women's singles, Lauren Lurk of Newton County fell to Shields 6-3, 6-0.

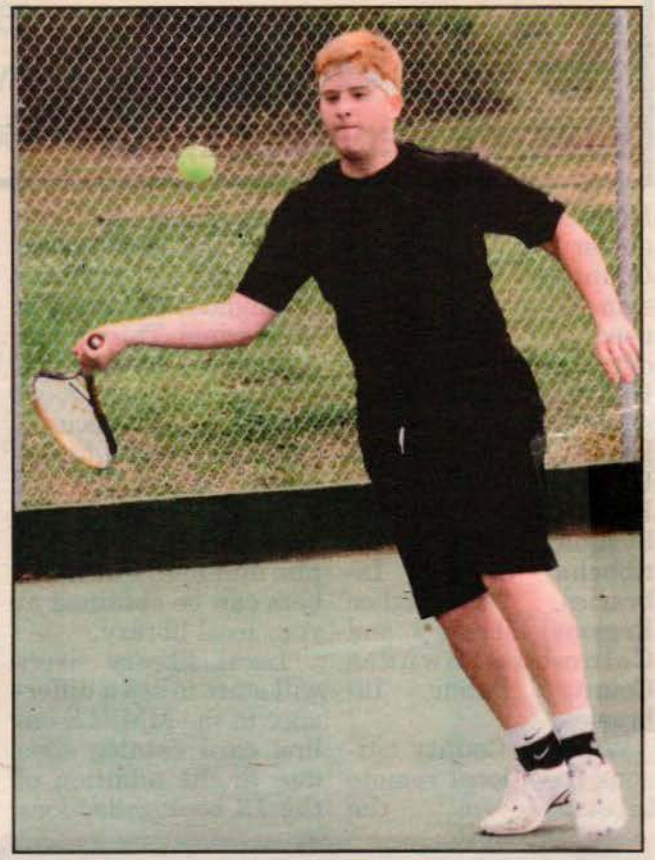
Munn and Lurk teamed to win their doubles match over White/Shields, 8-3.

In matches with MS Gulf Coast held March in Perkinston, the Warriors fell 7-2 and the Lady Warriors were defeated 8-1.

In men's singles, Hanna defeated Bell 7-6 (7-5), 6-1 and Calvert clipped Gann 7-6 (7-5), 6-1.

In other results, French lost to A. Puyol 6-2, 6-2; Cochran lost to L. Puyol 6-2, 6-0; Mays lost to Burdick 6-0, 6-2; and Peoples fell to Wolfe, 6-3, 6-0.

The Warriors dropped all three doubles matches, as French and Mays fell to A. Puypol/L. Puyol, 8-0; Cochran and Peoples lost to Purdick/Bell, 8-1; and Calvert and Hanna were edged by Wolf/Baughman, 8-6.



East Central Community College freshman tennis player Lucas Calvert of Louisville focuses on making a good return during competition with Holmes Community College Thursday, March 8 on the Decatur campus. Calvert won his singles match and teamed with Andrew Hanna of Union to win in doubles. Calvert is a product of Neshoba Central High School. The Warriors were clipped 6-3 by the visitors from Goodman. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF March 11, 2012

ECCC tennis teams struggle with losses in recent matches

East Central Community College's tennis teams dropped decisions to Northeast Mississippi Community College in competition held March 6 at Meridian Community College.

from school reports

Both EC squads fell by 6-3 margins.

In men's singles, Andrew Hanna of Newton County Academy, Newton County High School product Blake Cochran, and Lucas Calvert were the lone winners for the Warriors.

Hanna defeated Brandon Gardner 6-7 (6-8), 6-4, 1-0 (14-12); Cochran beat Taylor Dees 6-4, 4-6, 1-0 (10-5); and Calvert dropped Drew Gann 6-0, 7-6 (7-2).

In other results, Levi French of Union was clipped by Preston Wade 6-3, 6-0; Chris Mays fell to Ben Nhek 6-1, 6-3; and Josh Peoples lost to Andrew Ferrell 6-1,6-3.

In men's doubles, French and Mays lost to Wade/Dees 8-3; Cochran and Peoples fell to Gardner/Nhek 8-3; and Calvert and Hanna were edged by Ferrell/Duncan Schaefer 8-5.

Newton County High School products Cassie Munn and Kelsey Tadlock won their respective singles matches. Munn defeated Monica Pruitt 6-3, 6-1 and Tadlock clipped Rose 7-5, 6-3. Lauren Lurk, also of Newton County, fell 6-4, 6-1 in her match with Emily Burke.

Munn and Lurk were victorious in their doubles matchup, cruising past Pruitt/Marcey Sykes by an 8-3 margin.

With EC only having three girls play, Northeast won the other matches by default.

The EC teams were defeated by Holmes Community College and Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College in recent contests as well.

The Warriors and Lady Warriors fell by identical 6-3 margins to Holmes on Thursday.

In men's competition, Hanna and Calvert posted wins in singles and doubles competition.

Hanna defeated Jared Lyons 7-6 (7-5), 6-3 and Calvert clipped Gann 6-1, 6-0 in singles. Hanna and Calvert also teamed to win their doubles match over Lyons/Brett Parker 8-3.

In other men's singles results, French fell to Darrlyn Hale, 6-0, 6-0; Cochran fell to Hunter Boxx, 6-4, 6-0; Mayes fell to Custode, 6-1, 6-0; and Peoples fell to Grey Tedford 6-1, 6-2.

Cochran and Peoples were edged 9-7 in their doubles match with Custode/Corey Dean McCumber, and French and Mays dropped an 8-3 decision to Hale/Box.

In women's singles, Munn defeated White 6-3, 6-0 and Tadlock blanked Ciara Applewhite 6-0, 6-0.

In other women's singles, Lurk fell to Rebecca Shields 6-3, 6-0.

Munn and Lurk teamed to win their doubles match over White/Shields, 8-3.

In matches with Mississippi Gulf Coast held March 6 in Perkinston, the Warriors fell 7-2 and the Lady Warriors were defeated 8-1.

In men's singles, Hanna defeated Grant Bell 7-6 (7-5), 6-1 and Calvert clipped Gann 7-6 (7-5), 6-1.

In other results, French lost to Alexander Puyol 6-2, 6-2; Cochran lost to Lachlan Puyol 6-2, 6-0; Mays lost to Travis Burdick 6-0, 6-2; and Peoples fell to Cameron Wolf, 6-3, 6-0.

The Warriors dropped all three doubles matches, as French and Mays fell to A. Puyol/L. Puyol, 8-0; Cochran and Peoples lost to Burdick/Bell, 8-1; and Calvert and Hanna were edged by Wolf/Caleb Baughman, 8-6.

In women's singles, Tadlock was the lone winner as she defeated Kaleigh Grantham 6-2, 6-7 (10-8).

In other results, Munn lost to Arielle Fisher 6-1, 6-0; and Lurk fell to Catherine Boss 6-1, 6-0.

Munn and Lurk fell to Fisher/Boss 8-3 in the only doubles match.

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

EC men's doubles winners announced

Pete Mazzella of Lake and Todd Tindle of Newton defeated Jason Hancock of Decatur and Matt Wade of Forest by a 6-3 score to claim the men's doubles title in an East Central Community College-sponsored event held recently on the Decatur campus.

In other results, Levi French and Will Marston, both of Union, defeated Pat O'Neill of Decatur and Walt Stinson of Philadelphia, 6-5 (7-5); Phillip and Troy Savell of Philadelphia edged Russ and Will Thompson of Decatur, 6-3; and Brandon and Steve St. Clair of Decatur beat Brandon and Kerry Huddleston of Little Rock, 6-1.

ECCC tennis coach Dianne O'Neill served as tournament director.

Week of April 1, 2012

Appeared in:

Carthaginian_____

Newton County Appeal ✓

Spirit of Morton_____

Meridian Star_____

Neshoba Democrat_____

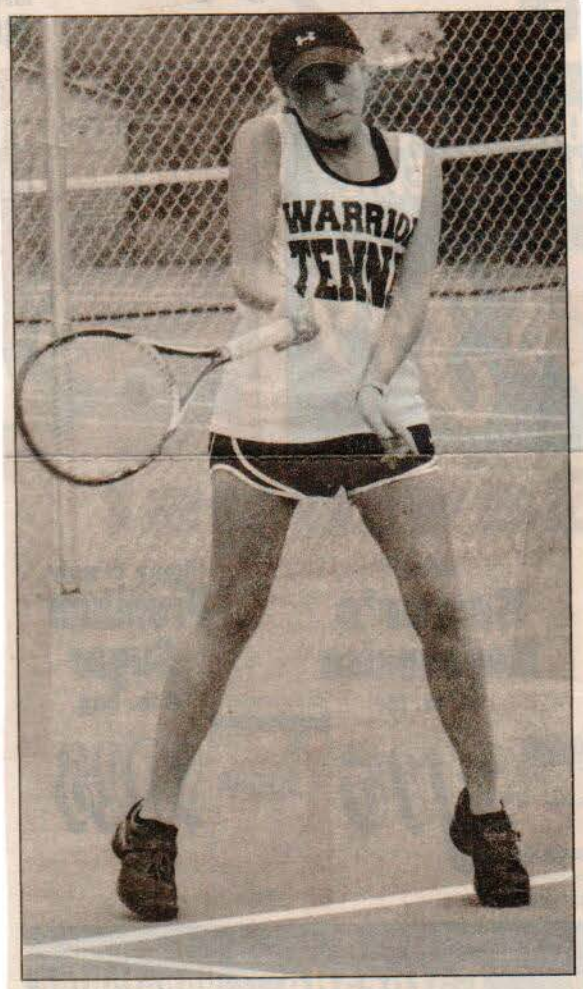
Scott County Times_____

Winston County Journal____

Clarion-Ledger_____

WEEK OF May 27, 2012

Munn returns



Cassie Munn, a sophomore on the East Central Community College women's tennis team, is shown returning a shot during one of her matches this spring.

EC photo

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓x2

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

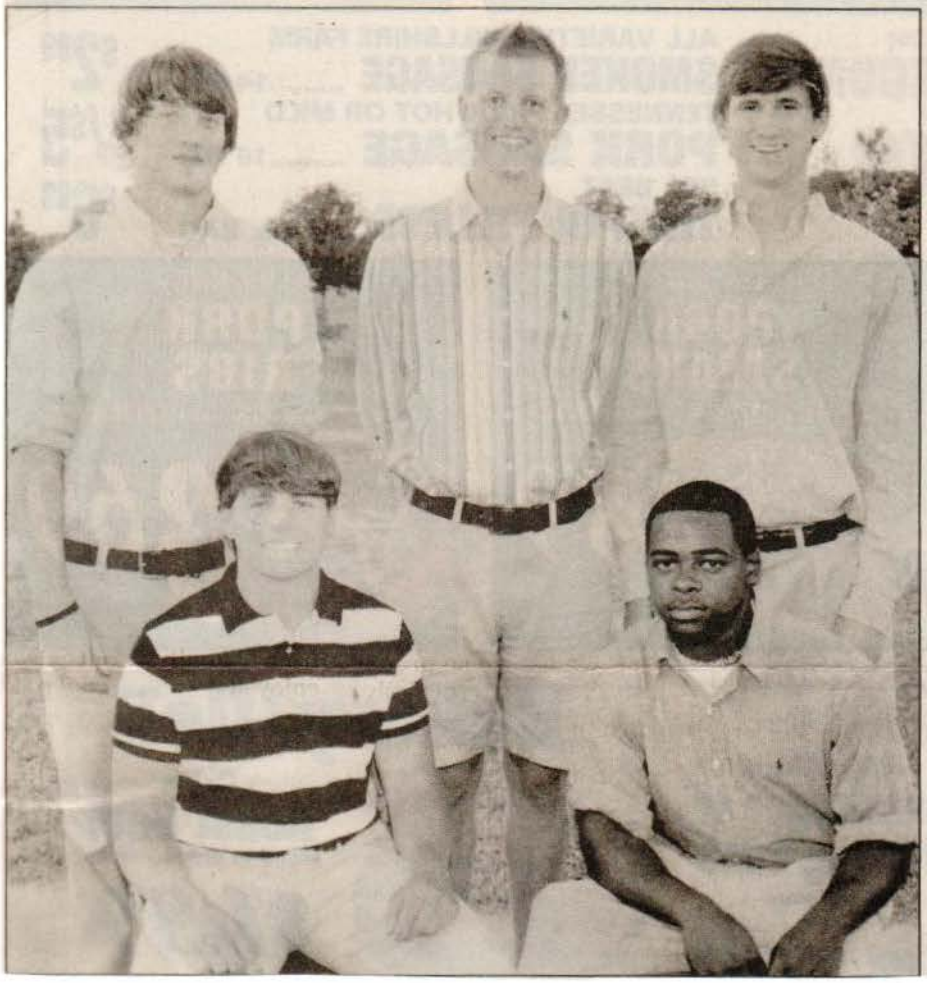
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF June 10, 2012

Warrior tennis awards



These members of the 2012 East Central Community College men's tennis team received honors at the Spring Sports Banquet. Seated from left are Andrew Hanna (Warrior Award) and Chris Mays (Most Improved Player). Standing are Levi French (Most Valuable Player), Blake Cochran (Captain Award), and Hunter Stovall (Academic Award).

EC phot

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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CLARION-LEDGER _____